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'Marvellous Statue of Majestic Kalaignar'

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi** at a function presided by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**, inaugurated the 1,152 tenements built at the Perumbakkam scheme area in Chennai, under the Prime Minister's Housing for all scheme at a cost of Rs. 116.37 crore and handed over allotment orders to beneficiaries at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium at Chennai on 26.05.2022.

99th birth anniversary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar

Gopalapuram Residence

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** paid floral tributes to a portrait of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar at his Memorial, in connection with the 99th birth anniversary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar on 03.06.2022.

Leader of the Tamil race

A fighter who fought all through his life for the Tamil language and the welfare of Tamils; an egalitarian thinker who directed the chariot of administration in the path of social justice; a rationalist who awakened Tamil society with Dravidian principles; a leader who brought insight to us by affectionately calling us 'Udanpirappe' (sibling). In another year, the eldest son of Tamil Nadu will see his centenary, I adored my master 'Leader of Tamil Race' who shaped me with his blood.

- *Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu*
Thiru. M.K. Stalin
(in Social Media)

Kalaignar Memorial

C.I.T. Nagar House

Omandurar Government Estate Campus

Tamilarasu

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Editor and Publisher

Dr.V.P. Jeyaseelan I.A.S.,
Director of Information &
Public Relations and Ex-officio
Deputy Secretary to Government

Administrative Editor

T. Hariram
Joint Director (Publications)

Joint Editor

A. Maheswari
Asst. Director

Associate Editors

S. Deepa
S. Uthaya Kathiravan
S. Manjula
Public Relations Officers

Assistant Editors

A. Sukumar
M. Manimekalai
A. Mathan
K. Subash

Reporter

S.R.S. Srindar

Senior Artist

R. Samundeeswari

Artist

R. Uma Maheswari

Junior Proof Reader

D. Priya

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Karumam Sidhaiyaamal Kannoada Vallaarkku
Urimai Udaththuiv vulagu - *Kural: 578*

This world belongs to those who are foremost in fulfilling their duties without fail and in showering kindness on people.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the kural.

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Vice President of India **Thiru. M. Venkaiah Naidu** unveiled the statue of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar at a function presided over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru M. K. Stalin** at the Chennai Omandurar Government Estate on 28.05.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lauds golden statue raised for 'Architect of Modern Tamil Nadu'

This day has come to be adored as the 'golden day' in life. This huge statue of the 'Leader of the Tamil Race' who elevated Tamil Nadu to the skies has been erected as a symbol of our gratitude.

His statues have been erected all over Tamil Nadu as he toiled to uplift Tamil Nadu.

A speciality of the statue erected today is that it is situated between the statues of Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna. That is very apt.

Kalaignar had often identified himself as a student of Thanthai Periyar's Erode school and Perarignar's Kanchi college. In accordance with this, Kalaignar's statue has come to be placed between the statues of Periyar and Anna.

Another speciality is the construction of this huge building in the Omandurar Estate for the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. Though it is functioning now as a hospital, it stands majestically as the dream fort of Kalaignar. The location of this event, Kalaivanar Arangam, once functioned as 'Balar Arangam' and it was Kalaignar who re-structured it as a big building and named it Kalaivanar Arangam.

As the crown of this event that has so many specialities, the Hon'ble Vice President of India Thiru. Venkaiah Naidu has come here and unveiled the statue.

The Hon'ble Vice President has always been our good friend. As Thiru. Durai Murugan has pointed out, when Thalaivar Kalaignar was

cruelly arrested in 2001, the then President of India Thiru. K.R. Narayanan and the then Prime Minister of India Thiru. Vajpayee were greatly upset. Our guest here today, Thiru. Venkaiah Naidu severely condemned and criticized the then rulers for that arrest. Till date, he is maintaining the same friendship.

When we were considering whom to invite for unveiling the statue, we immediately thought of the Vice President. When we conveyed the proposal to him, he agreed wholeheartedly. The Hon'ble Vice President has the reputation of being a very good parliamentary democrat. He skillfully handled turbulent situations in the Rajya Sabha.

So, he knows how talented Kalaignar should have been to serve in the Assembly for 60 years. It is very appropriate that he should unveil the statue of Thalaivar Kalaignar today. The event gets an added greatness as a person in the highest position as Vice President of India is unveiling the statue of the 'Leader of the Tamil Race'.

In the Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble President of India Thiru. Ram Nath Kovind unveiled the portrait of Thalaivar Kalaignar. The Hon'ble Vice President of India has come here to unveil a statue of Kalaignar.

It was our Muthamizharignar Kalaignar who created the Prime Ministers of India. He had created many of the Presidents of India. He was also instrumental in establishing a stable Government at the national level. It is also our Thalaivar Kalaignar who ruled Tamil Nadu as Chief Minister for 5 terms and created this modern Tamil Nadu. This statue has been installed to honour such a great man.

When the DMK formed the Government in 1967 for the first time, Thalaivar Kalaignar described it in a banner news in 'Murasoli': "A Tamilian born in a poor family has ascended the throne; henceforth the poor will thrive".

Perarignar Perunthagai Arignar Anna could rule for two years only. After him, it was our Muthamizharignar Thalaivar Kalaignar who took over the administration and protected the Movement till his last breath.

Our Thalaivar Kalaignar was a multi-faceted person; in whatever field he entered, he was supreme there.

Is it literature? - How many works; 'Kuraloviyam', 'Tholkappiya Poonga' and 'Ponnar Sankar' are all-time epics.

Is it the film world? – even today the dialogues of 'Parasakthi', 'Manohara' and 'Poompuhar' still echo in the country.

My dear friend Super Star Rajinikanth has come here. He is very much aware of the fact that aspiring actors found their entry into the film world by demonstrating their talent in delivering Kalaignar's dialogues. This is history.

Is it politics? He was the only leader who took over the responsibility of a great political party and steered it for nearly 50 years.

Is it governance? – The modern Tamil Nadu we see today has been created by Thalaivar Kalaignar. He had a vision for it, he was dedicated to the task. He was the beacon Light for the oppressed and downtrodden. He wrote, spoke, launched agitations and went to jail for their uplift. After getting the power to rule, he designed schemes for them. Present-day Tamil Nadu is the outcome of those schemes.

That is why we praise him even today as the 'Architect of Modern Tamil Nadu'. Our Thalaivar Kalaignar was a great philanthropist as innumerable persons all over Tamil Nadu benefited through him – those who studied in the colleges he created, those who got the job opportunities he gave, those who came up in life due to the social justice he safeguarded, farmers who made the land fertile due to free electricity scheme, those who got jobs due to SIPCOT, SIDCO industrial complexes, those who got houses through the Slum Clearance Board, the poor who got land, beneficiaries of the medical insurance scheme, women who got properties due to the property rights Act for women, thousands of weavers and lakhs of Government employees.

Everyone in Tamil Nadu would have been a beneficiary of one or other of the schemes he framed. Hence, for a leader of all the people in that sense, this statue has been erected today for him.

Thalaivar Kalaignar had set up statues, memorials and manimandapams for countless persons who toiled for the Tamil society. Any number of statues installed for him will not equal his service. This statue, set up in Anna Salai in between Periyar and Anna is unique.

In this very same Anna Salai, a statue was erected for Muthamizharignar Kalaignar by Dravidar Kazhagam as desired by Thanthai Periyar. But some people demolished it with a crowbar. Kalaignar was not angry over it. He wrote a poem. It went like this:

"Sibling! Even if those who allowed it, stood mute and enjoyed it, That young brother did not strike me from behind; he hit me on the chest! That gives me peace. Vaazhga! Vaazhga!"

Such a leader Kalaignar will remain etched in the hearts of crores and crores of people always. If you ask what is the drumbeat of the prime servant of such a leader - 'Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin' - it is "Hail!, Hail! Hail! – And Hail the fame of Thalaivar Kalaignar".

I take leave, conveying my thanks.

●

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K.Stalin at the statue unveiling ceremony of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar at Omandurar Government Estate on 28.05.2022 *(English Translation)*.

Vice President pays glowing tributes to versatile personality and multifaceted contribution of Kalaignar Karunanidhi

Asserting that Thiru. M. Karunanidhi was among the leaders who strengthened the concept of federalism in the country's polity, the Hon'ble Vice President of India Thiru. M. Venkaiah Naidu paid handsome tributes to the leader's contributions. He added that in this manner, the country has grown strongly into a Team India.

He said that Kalaignar Karunanidhi comes in the list of iconic leaders who put people at the centre of their work and guided by the enlightened pathway shown by the Constitution makers, tried to give meaning to the words of our Constitution.

The Hon'ble Vice President said, "We are quite fortunate that, after our independence in 1947, we have had, in our country, a series of illustrious Prime Ministers and Chief Ministers who have shaped the development trajectory of our great nation." They have made tremendous efforts in the States, Union territories and at the Union Government level to respond to people's aspirations, design policies, create programmes, and build institutions. These consistent efforts have taken our country forward. "Guided by the enlightened pathway shown by the Constitution makers, these leaders at various levels, have tried to give meaning to the words in our Constitution''. In this regard, he said that, "thanks to leaders like Thiru. Karunanidhi, the country has strengthened its federal character."

The Hon'ble Vice President observed that each of our States has a vibrant, unique quality, marked by linguistic richness, literary and cultural treasures, breathtaking architecture, remarkable craftsmanship, scientific, industrial and agricultural accomplishments. "We, as a nation, have moved forward and have made perceptible progress by recognizing and celebrating this fascinating diversity and capitalizing on the inherent strengths in each State. We have realized that we can bring about a rare synergy if we tap into the abundant, hidden energy that is waiting to be kindled within each of our citizens in each of our States and this is what exceptional leaders like Thiru. Karunanidhi tried to do."

The Hon'ble Vice President termed Thiru. Karunanidhi as a visionary leader

who focused on empowering marginalised people and those outside the circle of development. "He was an able Chief Minister who left a lasting legacy of development and social welfare", the Vice President said. He recollected that 'Uzhavar Sandhai' or farmer's markets and a health insurance scheme for the poor were among the many initiatives which reflected Karunanidhi's far-sighted approach. Describing Karunanidhi as one of India's most dynamic Chief Ministers, the Vice President pointed out that he gave a boost to industrial growth, infrastructure and information technology in Tamil Nadu.

Recalling that he had interacted quite closely with Kalaignar Karunanidhi over several decades during the course of his long journey in public life, the Vice President said that the DMK stalwart was a leader who stood firmly by his political beliefs and convictions. In this context, he pointed out that Karunanidhi had opposed the imposition of Emergency by the then Prime Minister Tmt. Indira Gandhi, in clear and unambiguous terms.

Expressing his admiration for Karunanidhi's multifaceted personality, Vice President described the DMK leader as a versatile personality with a unique combination of a number of talents. In the words of the Vice President, "Kalaignar Karunanidhi was an astute politician who won every election he contested and provided leadership to his party for nearly fifty years." the Vice President recalled that Thiru. Karunanidhi was a gifted orator who could hold an audience spellbound with his wit, literary flavour and learned expositions. "He was an outstanding legislator who excelled in the art of constructive political debate," the Vice President said. He added that Thiru. Karunanidhi had an artistic, cultural and journalistic flair that earned him the honorific title of 'Kalaignar.' Vice President described Thiru. Karunanidhi as a "multifaceted personality who has left an indelible impression on the development canvas of Tamil Nadu."

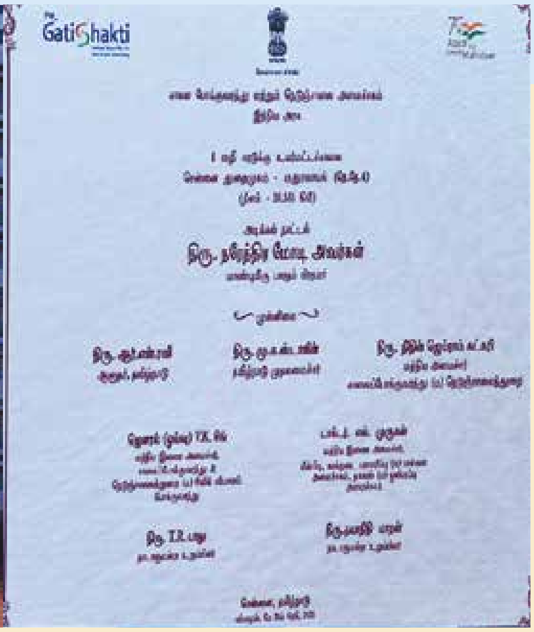
Vice President observed that Thiru. Karunanidhi's multi-dimensional work has had a lasting impact on the socio-political landscape of Tamil Nadu. He added, "through his scripts and dialogues, Kalaignar Karunanidhi blazed a new trail in Tamil cinema. As an insightful commentator on current affairs and political analyst, Kalaignar wielded a powerful pen, writing extensively in Murasoli, the party publication he founded." The Vice President remarked that if there is one common strand which runs through the work of Kalaignar Karunanidhi, the administrator, the social activist, the political reformer, the script writer, the poet, the playwright, the journalist and the author, it is that of social equality and inclusive development.

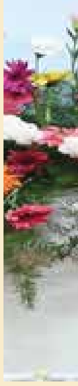
The Vice President recalled that Kalaignar Karunanidhi was a great champion of Tamil Nadu's rich cultural heritage, its Tamil language and literature. The Vice President described Thiru. Karunanidhi as a leader who loved his motherland and mother tongue and helped the world know about the state's wealth of cultural heritage and the literary works in the classical language of Tamil. The Vice President pointed out that "it was Kalaignar who declared the prayer song for Tamil Nadu in 1970, the 'Tamil Thaai Vazhthu' with which we begin all functions in the State."

The Vice President expressed the hope that Tamil Nadu would make rapid progress on all fronts and, working with the Union Government in the true spirit of 'co-operative federalism' and 'competitive federalism', make India realise its true potential in the years to come. He added that he also hopes that the current Chief Minister Thiru.M.K. Stalin would be guided by the vision and work of his illustrious father, Kalaignar Karunanidhi.

Speech of the Hon'ble Vice President of India
Thiru. M. Venkaiah Naidu, after unveiling the statue of **Muthamizharignar Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi**, at Omandurar Government Estate on 28.05.2022.

Hon'ble Prime Minister lays foundation stone for two-tier flyover from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal





Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi** declared open on 26.05.2022, at the Nehru Indoor Stadium, 1,152 apartments constructed at Perumbakkam, Chennai under the Light House scheme, the model housing scheme at a cost of Rs. 116.37 crore in the presence of the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. R.N. Ravi** and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**. He also laid the foundation stone for new scheme works worth Rs.28,553 crore including a 20.565 km long two-tier flyover from Chennai Harbour to Maduravoyal and inaugurated railway works costing Rs.1,104 crore and the work of laying natural gas pipe at a cost of Rs. 1,760 crore for the use of people.

The Light House scheme at Perumbakkam

Under the Prime Minister's 'Housing for all' scheme, 1,152 apartments have been constructed at Perumbakkam for the economically weaker sections and for those residing in objectionable scheme areas, employing world renowned precast technology at a cost of Rs. 116.37 crore.

In this model housing scheme, there are 12 blocks, each containing 96 apartments; the buildings have a ground plus 5 floors and each block has a lift, ramp for differently-abled persons, solar power and an overhead tank. Each apartment has a plinth area of 406 sq. ft. with a multi-purpose room, a bed-room, kitchen, bath room and a toilet.

For the implementation of this scheme, the subsidy provided by the Union Government is Rs. 5.50 lakh, the State Government Rs. 3.50 lakh and the contribution of the beneficiary Rs. 1.50 lakh, totally amounting to Rs. 10.50 lakh.

Each block has facilities like underground drainage, recycling of drainage water, 3 sumps, underground cables for power connection, parking lot for 2-wheelers, library, fair price shop, Anganwadi Centre, Aavin kiosk, parks, lift, compound wall and street lights.

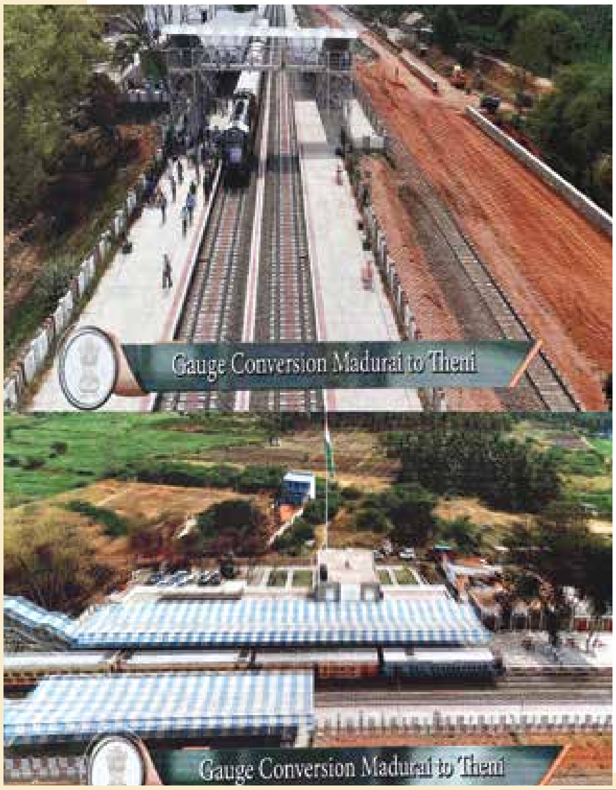
Details of the new schemes for which foundation was laid: A 20.565 km long two-tier flyover from Chennai Harbour to Maduravoyal at a cost of Rs. 5,855 crore by the

Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways through the National Highways Authority of India;

A Four-Lane Expressway between Bangalore and Chennai at an estimate of Rs. 14,872 crore;

Multi-terminal Cargo Transport Park at Chennai at an estimate of Rs. 1,428 crore;

A four-lane road from Neralur to Dharmapuri at an estimate of Rs. 3,871 crore;



Two/Four-Lane road between Meensuritti and Chidambaram at an estimate of Rs. 724 crore;

Renovation works at Egmore, Rameswaram, Madurai, Katpadi and Kanniyakumari Railway stations at an estimate of Rs. 1,803 crore;

Totally, the Hon'ble Prime Minister laid the foundation for schemes valued at Rs. 28,553 crore.

Details of the completed works in the Indian Railways for the benefit of the people:

Third railway line between Tambaram and Chengalpattu (30 km) set up at a cost of Rs. 598 crore;

Conversion of 75 km Madurai-Theni metre-gauge railway line into broad gauge line at a cost of Rs. 506 crore;

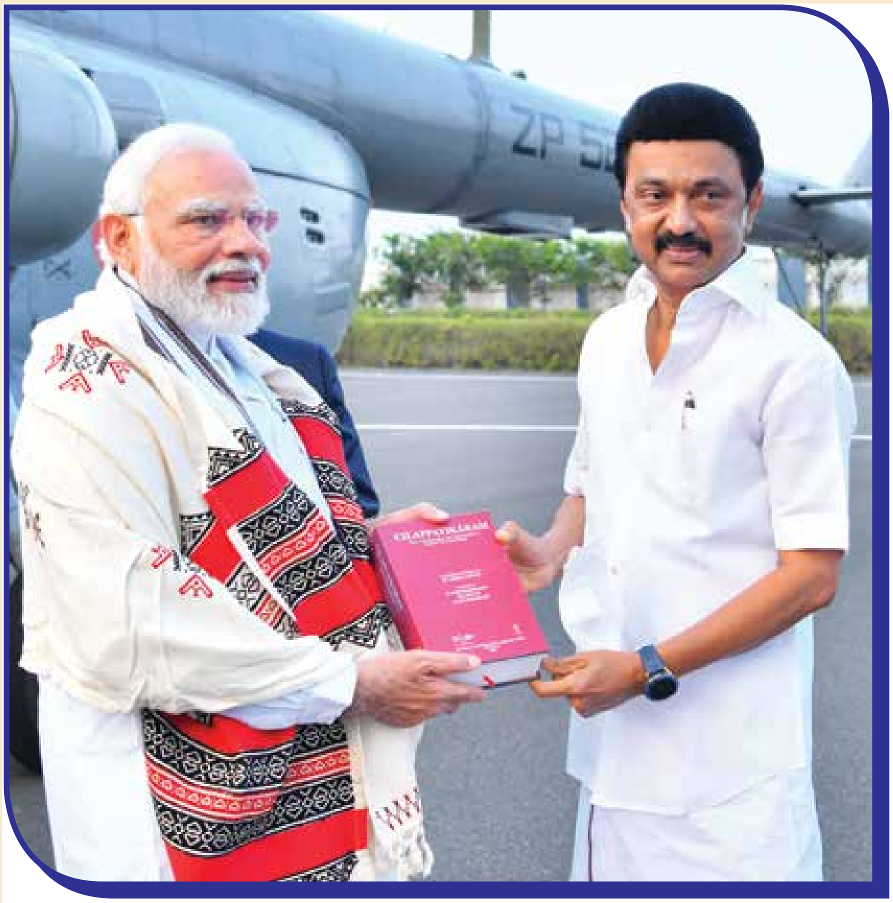
Totally, the Hon'ble Prime Minister dedicated to the people, railway scheme works costing Rs. 1,104 crore.

Details of the Natural Gas Pipes to be laid by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of the Union Government:

Laying of Natural Gas pipes to a length of 115 km in the Ennore-Chengalpattu sector at a cost of Rs. 849 crore;

Laying of Natural Gas pipes to a length of 271 km in the Tiruvallur-Bengaluru sector at a cost of Rs. 911 crore;

The Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated these pipe-laying works to be executed at a total cost of Rs. 1,760 crore.



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** welcomed the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi** with a shawl and presented him with a copy of the English translation of the Tamil epic, Silapathikaram, at INS Adyar, on 26.05.2022

Hon'ble Chief Minister asserts in presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister

'We will extend our hand for friendship, but also raise our voice for our rights'

This is the first Government function that the Hon'ble Prime Minister is taking part in, after the DMK Government took over the reins of the administration in the State.

Firstly, as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, on behalf of all Tamil Nadu people, I thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister, for having come to inaugurate several projects for the development of Tamil Nadu.

Today, foundation stones are to be laid for 5 highway projects, 3 railway projects and the ETBPNMTPL pipeline project. 1,152 houses constructed as part of the Light House Project are to be inaugurated.

All these are very crucial for the development of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu stands apart as one of the developed states of India in many aspects.

Tamil Nadu greatly contributes to the overall development of our country in the fields of education, economy, health, agriculture, exports and highly skilled human resources. Tamil Nadu plays a vital role in India's development.

The development of Tamil Nadu is unique from that of other States.

The development of Tamil Nadu is not just about the economy.

Tamil Nadu's development is inclusive of Social Justice, Women development, Equality.

Hon'ble Prime Minister!

Tamil Nadu is a leading State - in terms of economic growth, excellent rural health facilities, large number of educational institutions and highly skilled human resources.

Our State is a pioneer, not only in economic and other related factors but also in social justice, equality and women empowerment. In brief, Tamil Nadu is a state for inclusive growth.

This is what we call "THE DRAVIDIAN MODEL!" Hon'ble Prime Minister...

In this Dravidian Model of governance, while taking various welfare and developmental measures, I wish to inform you that we have largely corrected the fiscal imbalance and also re-structured the finances of the State.

I believe that our Hon'ble Prime Minister is aware of the fact that Tamil Nadu's contribution is very crucial to India's development and the Union Government's fiscal resources. To list out a few,

Tamil Nadu's share in India's GDP is 9.22%. In the overall tax income of the Union Government, Tamil Nadu's share is 6%.

Tamil Nadu constitutes 8.4% of India's total export.

Tamil Nadu's share is 19.4% in India's Textile Industry and 32.5% in export of cars. In the export of leather products, Tamil Nadu's contribution is 33%.

But only 1.21 per cent of the Union Government's tax revenue is distributed to Tamil Nadu.

Therefore, the Union Government must increase its contribution to schemes and fund allocation, to do justice to the contribution of developed states like Tamil Nadu in the country's development and economy. Only then will the true spirit of co-operative federalism be upheld.

In schemes that are jointly implemented by the Union Government and State Governments, States also contribute a lot. For e.g., Tamil Nadu is one of the states that invests the most in the highways sector. While projects worth Rs. 44,762 crore are being implemented for National Highways in Tamil Nadu; we have allocated Rs. 18,218.91 crore for State Highways projects. Thus, we are very much interested in strengthening the road infrastructure by working in tandem with you. More such projects should be implemented in Tamil Nadu.

I would like to stress two things about the schemes we implement together.

Even though the Union Government provides more funds for such schemes in the beginning, we are witnessing a trend of the states' share being increased over time.

Also, there are many schemes that are implemented with the contribution of the beneficiaries along with Union and State Governments. When beneficiaries are unable to pay their share, it is the State Governments which are in direct contact with the people who pay their share as well. This adds to the burden on the State finances. Therefore, I demand that the contribution ratio mentioned in the beginning of such schemes should continue till the end and when beneficiaries are not able to pay their share, the Union Government must also step in along with the State Government.

I would like to place a few more demands as our Hon'ble Prime Minister is here.

I would like to remind him that this is the right time to retrieve Katchatheevu as a solution to the problems faced by our fisherfolk and uphold their traditional rights to fish there.

The GST compensation due to Tamil Nadu as on 15.05.2022 is Rs.14,006 crore. I request that this shall be released immediately.

At a time when many States' revenues have not yet recovered completely, I demand that the GST compensation period be extended for at least two more years from June 2022.

- The Tamil language is both ancient and modern among the classical languages of the world. It thrives with its eternal youthfulness and should be made the Official Language on par with Hindi and recognised as the court language in the Hon'ble High Court.
- Tamil Nadu has been continuously opposing NEET for admission into medical courses. We have passed a law to exempt Tamil Nadu from NEET and have sent the same to the Union Government for assent through the Hon'ble Governor. On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to facilitate this at the earliest.

I hope that the Hon'ble Prime Minister will see fairness and merit in our demands.

Hon'ble Prime Minister!

I have just listed out some of the important demands of Tamil Nadu.

Like,

- ➢ Katchatheevu,
- ➢ NEET Bill
- ➢ GST dues

Tamil as Official Language in Union Government Offices and in the Hon'ble Madras High Court.

I appeal to you to consider them favourably as early as possible.

Hon'ble Prime Minister!

Tamil Nadu is one of the most advanced states of our Indian Union.

It will continue to serve as the engine for leading and moving the country's economy forward.

Therefore, I want you to extend your fullest co-operation and support to Tamil Nadu.

I request you to allot more projects and more funds to our state in the true spirit of co-operative federalism.

As the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, I once again reiterate 'Architect of Modern Tamil Nadu' Muthamizharignar Kalaignar's words:

"Uravukku Kai Koduppom; Urimaikku Kural Koduppom."

We will extend our hand for friendship, at the same time, we will raise our voice for our rights.

Once again, I thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister for implementing several projects in Tamil Nadu and for the ones to be launched in the future as well. Let us all work to implement people-centric welfare schemes to achieve our goal of 'Everything for Everyone.'

"As old as the oldest, new as the newest, Tamil, which is still alive today among the classical languages of the world, should be declared an official language equal to Hindi and the language of litigation in the Hon'ble High Court."

Hon'ble Chief Minister flags off cargo ship carrying essential articles to Sri Lanka

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** flagged off at the Chennai Harbour on 18.05.2022, the cargo ship TAN BINH 99 that carried the first instalment of essential articles being sent from Tamil Nadu to the suffering Sri Lankan people. The articles sent are 9,000 metric tonnes of rice, 200 metric tonnes of Aavin milk powder and 24 metric tonnes of medicine, worth Rs. 45 crore.

In line with Ramalinga Adigalar and Kanian Poongundranar who declared their identification with living beings and a world beyond boundaries, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced, with motherly affection considering all suffering beings as relations even though divided by water and land, that essential articles would be sent on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu to the Sri Lankan people who are facing an economic crisis and are suffering from scarcity of food articles.

At his meeting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister at New Delhi on 31.03.2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister urged grant of permission for sending the articles to Sri Lanka. He also placed the demand to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Union Government over phone and sent a reminder letter on 15.04.2022.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also moved a resolution in the Legislative Assembly urging the Union Government to make arrangements for the dispatch of 40,000 tonnes of rice, life-saving drugs and 500 tonnes of milk powder for children on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, to help the Sri Lankan people at a time that the country's economic condition had greatly deteriorated, and extend the needed permission. The resolution was passed on 29.04.2022.

To implement the announcement made in the resolution, a high-level committee, including the Departments of Non-Resident Tamils Welfare and Rehabilitation, Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation and the Aavin organisation was set up.

Following the successive steps taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Union Government's permission was obtained on 13.05.2022. Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the event of dispatching the essential articles to Sri Lanka by flagging off the cargo ship TAN BINH 99. As a special gesture, the Hon'ble Chief Minister presented a model package of the essential articles dispatched to Sri Lanka to the Deputy High Commissioner of that country in Southern India, Dr. Venkateshwaran.

Paintings of students on one year achievements highlight welfare schemes

Hon'ble Chief Minister declares open exhibition of artefacts attesting to antiquity of Tamils

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** declared open an archaeological exhibition of various artefacts found during excavations in various parts of the State and an exhibition of paintings on one year achievements of the State Government, at the V.O.C.Grounds in Coimbatore on 19.05.2022.

The Department of Archaeology during the current year conducted excavations in seven places. These include Keezhadi and its surrounding areas in Sivagangai District, including Konthakai, Akaram and Manalur, in Sivakalai in Thoothukudi District, in Gangaikonda Cholapuram in Ariyalur District, in Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri District, in Vembakottai in Virudhunagar District, Thulukarpatti in Tirunelveli District and in Perumbalai in Dharmapuri District.

Rare objects were found during excavations in Keezhadi. The excavations have revealed clearly that urbanization in Vaigai river-bed had started in 6th B.C. itself. These excavations have been displayed under headings like literacy of Tamils, agricultural practices, water management and construction technology.

In the Sivakalai excavation the potsherd with the Thamizhi letters 'Aadhan' reminds us of the potsherd with the same letters in Keezhadi. Beautifully painted black and red earthen pots, small pots and pot lids show that the Tamil community that lived in Sivakalai are of great antiquity. A carbon dating analysis of rice with soil, found in a burial urn at Sivakalai, by the Miami-based Beta Analytic Testing Laboratory has yielded the date of 1155 B.C., indicating that the Thamirabarani

civilization dates back to 3,200 years. Photos of archaeological findings, burial urns, and models of excavation of pits were displayed in the exhibition.

Tamils in the past had business contacts with western and eastern countries and with other parts of India even before the eighth century B.C. This has been revealed through the timeline of Korkai excavations. Samples of square type bricks and perforated filter pipes are also on the display in the exhibition for the benefit of the public.

The main purpose of the excavations in Adichanallur, was to trace the early settlements of the area and to identify the settlements of people buried in the area. The present excavations have identified the ancient settlements of Adichanallur through archaeological evidence, which provided an answer to a long-standing question about the antiquity of Adichanallur. The replicas of objects found during excavations and their photographs were displayed in the exhibition. AMS radiocarbon dating of Mayiladumparai organic samples has shown that the use of iron was in vogue in Tamil Nadu even 4,200 years ago. Archaeological excavations have revealed that the area had been inhabited since the New Stone age to pre-historic times. Archaeological findings at Mayiladumparai excavations include spearheads, arrow heads, iron knives, axes, objects, which are usually placed during final rites, three legged jars, pots and vessels. These, including circular chips found in inhabited areas, moss heads, pottery and photographs of the Mayiladumparai excavations are on display.

More than 200 emblems of burial objects have been found in the sand dunes, including Karkuvai, Karpathugai, burial urns and Nedungal stones. Excavations, particularly during the period 2020-2021, have uncovered a well with stone-lined side walls, with steps on either side with plank stones. Archaeological findings and photographs of the excavations are on display.

In addition, **the Department of Public Relations and Tamil Virtual University have jointly planned to bring out the Achievements of the Government of Tamil Nadu in the last one year through paintings of college students**. Many students have enthusiastically participated and created beautiful paintings of the State Government's one year achievements. This is a good opportunity for all sections of people to know about the Government schemes and also improve their painting skills.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has taken various preventive measures during the critical Corona period and provided relief, assistance and necessary drugs to the public and also saved their livelihood. The Hon'ble Chief Minister and other high officials visited the flood-affected areas during the North-East Monsoon and provided relief to the affected people. The exhibition showcases various new projects that are being planned and the schemes that are being implemented for the betterment of people in various Departments such as medicine, agriculture, education, industries and local bodies.

Hon'ble Chief Minister amidst people in the Nilgiris

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, among people at Coonoor and Udagamandalam in the Nilgiris District on 19.05.2022 *(English Translation)*.

We have completed one year of rule with your support and blessings. This Government has been functioning with the trust and confidence you have entrusted with us. What could be done in the last 10 years has been done by us in the past one year, by this Kalaignar Government. You tell us whether you like or don't like this Government which you had voted for with faith and confidence.

We have provided schemes such as 'Illam Thedi Kalvi' and 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' and many welfare schemes. I have come to the Nilgiris to participate in various functions today and tomorrow. Whether we are in power or not, the DMK is the only organization that will always meet people and serve the poor.

This Government is one which has fulfilled most of the assurances given to people in the DMK election Manifesto within one year of its rule.

The DMK came to power after getting a massive mandate from the people. You know that the Government faced many problems when the party took charge. The State was under the grip of the Corona pandemic. We have lost many people in the pandemic. Many people were affected and many families were devastated. At such a juncture we came to power.

Immediately after coming to power, we took a vow to end the Corona pandemic. I didn't even take care of my life. I am the only

Chief Minister who visited hospitals to enquire about the condition of corona - affected people undergoing treatment. You all know how we controlled Corona.

Immediately, we had heavy rains and floods. You all know how we managed the flood situation. We have done in one year what could be done if we were in the Government in 10 years. We have implemented many schemes and created records in the past one year.

Only due to that we won the elections to the local bodies, Corporations, Town Panchayats and Grama Panchayats. For giving us these victories, I thank the people.

My heartiest thanks to you for the excellent reception you have given to us. Your reception gave us confidence that we should do more for the people. I have come to the Nilgiris as the Chief Minister and I am enthused by your reception and support. I am always bound by your love and affection. With these feelings I offer my sincere thanks again and again.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open a photo exhibition titled Queen of the Hills 'Ooty 200', at the Government Arts College, Udhagamandalam on 21.05.2022.

Ooty hosts 124th flower show in its 200th year

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated the 124th Ooty Flower Show at the Government Botanical Garden, Ooty, the Nilgiris District on 20.05.2022.

Summer festivals are annually held to attract the lakhs of tourists who visit the Nilgiris to enjoy its beauty. In the flower show inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, 275 varieties of flower including tulip, cymbidium, protea, Asiatic lilly and marigold are on display. He went round the flower show that displayed a variety of flowery decorations inclusive of pavilions exhibiting cut flowers, heliconia flower arrangements, tulip plants imported from Holland, bowers decorated with 52 types of flowers and models of Valluvar Kottam and a wild bison made of vegetables.

The other items/replicas/ insignia, created/decorated with flowers which the Hon'ble Chief Minister witnessed included, a glass bungalow made up with 4,500 pot plants, the cynosure of all eyes, one that aimed to honour the sons of the soil - Todar, Irular, Kurumbar, Paniyar, Kothar and Kaattunayakar tribes – a huge replica of the research centre of the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University using about one lakh Carnation flowers, an insignia "Ooty 200" to remind the city's entry into the 200th year. The Hon'ble Chief Minister visited an awareness pavilion - "Meendum Manjapai" - put up by the Department of Environment to promote the idea of eschewing plastic articles, and other private sector pavilions.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also visited the display enclosures that highlighted the organic agriculture adopted in the Nilgiris District and those set up by the Department of Horticulture that marked the richness of horticulture.

Hon'ble Chief Minister unveils a statue of John Sullivan, Ootacamund founder

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** unveiled a statue of John Sullivan who founded the British settlement of Ootacamund (Udagamandalam) on 21.05.2022. Two hundred years ago, on the Botanical Garden Road. The bust was set up at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh.

John Sullivan was born in 1788 in London. His father, Stephen Sullivan, worked in the East India Company at Thanjavur. Due to his efforts many English medium schools were started in and around Thanjavur.

John Sullivan joined as a writer in the East India Company, Chennai when he was 15 years old. In 1806, he became the Registrar of South Arcot District. In 1807 he was made the personal assistant to the Chief Secretary. In 1809, he became Assistant to the British Resident at Mysore and in 1814 he became District Collector of Chengalpet. In 1815, he was the special officer for the Revenue Department.

Later, John Sullivan served as the District Collector of Coimbatore District from 1815 to 1830. He first travelled to the Nilgiris in 1819. John Sullivan on February 22, 1819 reached Ooty with French botanist Jean Baptiste Louis with the guidance of Badaga tribal people. He toured the area for three months and also constructed a stone house in the area.

The first building of Udagamandalam is now part of the Udagamandalam Government Arts College. To convert it into a summer resort, he encouraged many to settle in the area. He developed a new path from Sirumugai in 1820 to enable the people to reach this area.

Then he imported many fruit-bearing trees to Udagamandalam and also developed a big lake at the centre of the town. He linked many streams in the hill station with the lake to ensure steady flow of water.

John Sullivan returned to England in 1841 after retirement. He spent his last days with his family and died in England in 1855 at the age of 66.

To commemorate the memory of John Sullivan who found the British settlement of Ootacamund 200 years ago, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin declared open a statue of John Sullivan at the tri junction of Botanical Garden Road.

'Ooty 200' inaugurated, slew of new schemes for Nilgiris District

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated the 'Ooty 200' festival at a Government function held on 21.05.2022 at the Ooty Government Arts college ground, the Nilgiris District, dedicated 28 scheme works completed at a cost of Rs. 56.36 crore to people, laid the foundation stone for 20 new scheme works valued at Rs. 34.30 crore and distributed various Government welfare assistance worth Rs. 28.13 crore to 9,500 persons.

Ooty 200 inaugural function

Marking the bicentennial year of the formation of Ooty, known as the 'Queen of Hills', the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open a photo exhibition 'Ooty 200' highlighting the greatness of the resort.

Also, the Hon'ble Chief Minister released a souvenir 'Ooty 200 – 200 years of Ooty' in honour of John Sullivan, the official who founded a British settlement in Ooty and developed it. The souvenir has been compiled by Thiru. A. Raja, MP and Thiru. Dharmalingam.

Scheme works dedicated to the people: A taluk office building, office building for Revenue Divisional Officer, office cum house for Kathy firka officer – Rs. 6.82 crore (Revenue and Disaster Management Department);

Backward Classes Government Boys Hostel at Nanja Nadu – Rs. 2.73 crore (Department of Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare);

A farm for directly bred bulls of the district and a sales centre for bull semen, hay and fodder- Rs. 2.46 crore (Department of Animal Husbandry);

Non-taluk hospital building, Emerald – Rs. 14.80 crore (Department of Health and Family Welfare);

Library building for Kolapalli Government High School, additional school building for Devarshola High School, additional school building for Gudalur Government High School and a new school building at T.R. Bazaar area – Rs. 2.21 crore (Department of School Education);

Kundha Community Hall, a new building at the Teachers' Colony in Ayyankolli, kitchen and dining hall building at Karikkiyur residential school, additional classroom at Pokkapuram Residential school – Rs. 1.48 crore (Department of Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribes Welfare);

200 green houses for tribals at Gudalur, community hall at Matchakal, anganwadi buildings at Soli and Theppakkadu area, Panchayat Office buildings at Balakola and Eppanadu, payment Panchayat Office building at Konavakkarai area, village hut at Bettatip area, roads laid between Aadasolai and Anikorai, roads laid between Kallakorai and Karikkalvazhai – Rs. 21.89 crore (Rural Development Agency);

70 houses constructed under a special scheme at Karakolli area for those who have returned homeland – Rs. 2.45 crore (Department of Non-Resident Tamils Welfare); and

An additional building for the Gudalur Municipality – Rs. 1.50 crore (Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply). Totally, 28 completed works at a cost Rs. 56.36 crore.

Foundation stone for works: Veterinary dispensary at Thengumarahada, vehicle parking lot, approach road and relaxing room for workers at Ooty veterinary dispensary complex – Rs.1.73 crore (Department of Animal Husbandry);

Construction of an accident cum intensive treatment centre building – Rs. 3.03 crore (Department of Health and Family Welfare);

Additional class rooms at Doddabetta middle school, additional classroom at the Government elementary school, Elk Hill, additional classroom at Thakkar Baba middle school and additional classroom at Kokkur higher secondary school – Rs. 2.20 crore (Department of Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribes Welfare);

Road development works between Semmanarai and Thalamokkai at a cost of Rs. 27.35 crore, strengthening of road between Thenaaru and Keezhkattapettu, developing Pazhaniappa Mannar salai, strengthening of road from Yedapalli to Willingdon, strengthening of the road from Dhavanai to Hullathi Naduvatti, repairs on the bridge on Gundalaadi Mangam Vayal Salai, repairs on Koranjal Chappanthodu Salai, rectification of Velachal bridge, 592 green houses for tribals, display hall at Panakatti in Kagguchi Panchayat, a multi-purpose building at Onnathalai, Kagguchi Panchayat and a multi- purpose building at Naduhatti.

Totally, 20 new schemes to be implemented at a total cost of Rs. 34.30 crore.

Government welfare assistance: Cheques for honey box and plans for setting up poultry farm and nursery, orders for setting up tea stall and eatery, distribution of milch cow, appliances for traditional doctors,

Sewing machines at no cost to 258 beneficiaries (Department of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare); sewing machine and iron boxes to press clothes to 43 beneficiaries (BC and Minorities Welfare); old-age and other pensions to 994 beneficiaries, online pattas to 820 persons and community certificate for 1,180 tribals (Revenue Department), new electronic family ration cards to 210 persons (District Civil Supplies), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Identity cards to 400 persons, uniforms to 612 Swachh Sentries (Rural Development and Local Administration); orders for sanction of education loan to 11 beneficiaries by the premier bank in the district; orders for getting washing machines to wash new carrot and vegetables for 2 persons under the Industrial Entrepreneur and Industrial Development Scheme (District Industrial Centre);

Orders for collateral bank loan to 134 self help groups, orders to get huge bank loans to 50 self help groups, collateral bank loan facility to 1,658 beneficiaries (Tamil Nadu State Rural and Urban Livelihood Movement); loan facility for

integrated horticulture development under the Combined Farming Scheme to 4 teams, canopy for permanent production of earthworm and orders for setting up farm ponds to 2 beneficiaries, sprinkler irrigation appliances to 8 beneficiaries, orders to get organic inputs for organic cultivation to 4 teams, order to train 19 teams in organic production of hill vegetables, orders to get funds for starting industrial teams for 12 teams and loan facility to 2 farmer-producer institutions (Horticulture and Hill Crops Department);

Petrol retro scooters for 15 beneficiaries, battery-operated wheel chairs for 5 persons, motor-fitted sewing machines for 20 persons, financial assistance for 4 persons for natural death/funeral rites, scholarship to children of 2 differently-abled persons, smart phones with appropriate apps and hearing aid to 10 beneficiaries (Department of Welfare of Differently-Abled persons);

Under the Prime Minister food processing small scale industries scheme, order for one beneficiary (Agriculture Marketing and Agri Commerce Department); sewing machines at no cost to 40 beneficiaries (Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department); shield/ prizes to 9 beneficiaries for their success in Happy Mathematics Training, hand-held computers to 12 beneficiaries, aid and appliances for 5 differently-abled beneficiaries, prizes to 6 beneficiaries for their success in the written competition on 'Call for Drug Awareness' (Department of School Education); Corona relief fund for 4 beneficiaries and financial assistance to 22 beneficiaries under the Fund Support Scheme (District Child Protection Unit);

Orders for new hut electricity connection to 15 beneficiaries (Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Corporation), orders for loan assistance to 30 self help groups and 2 more teams, loan to 13 differently-abled persons, orders for crop loans to 480 persons, order for joint loan to 136 beneficiaries, orders for medium-term loan and animal husbandry loan to 49 beneficiaries and orders to 12 beneficiaries for launching mobile Aavin parlour (Co-operation Department);

Loan assistance to 197 persons under the scheme for distribution of goats at no cost, loan assistance with subsidy through TAHDCO to 92 persons (Department of Animal Husbandry) and appointment orders to 1,273 persons selected through private sector employment opportunity camp (District Employment Exchange and Industries Department).

Totally, different welfare assistance worth Rs. 28.13 crore were distributed to 9,500 persons.

Earlier, en route to the event, the Hon'ble Chief Minister received petitions from people.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over Rs.25,000 each to 21 selected Adi Dravidar writers

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, at the Secretariat on 13.05.2022, presented the first instalment of Rs.25,000 each and a Commendation Certificate to 21 writers, selected as the best by the Adi Dravidar and Literature Society.

The Awardees for the year 2020-2021 are: Thiru. E.Murugesan (Sattaparvaiyil Aavanangal), Thiru. K.Vanchinathan (Kalam Kanda Tamil), Thiru. R. Ilangeswaran (Vinnai Thulaikkum Vizhuthugal), Dr. B. Sivalingam (Arivulaga Medhai Dr. Ambedkar), Tmt. Bhanu Elumalai (Ambedkar Thaan Aattriya Uraiyum Vivaathankalum), Tmt. A. Priyavelsi (Atmam Pazhagu, Anaithum Pazhagu), Thiru. P.Ponmanidasan (Ponmanidasan Kavithaigal), Thiru. K.Subramani (Sigarankalukkana Vilasangal), Thiru. Yakkan (Dr. Ambedkar Arasamaippu Satta Avaikkul Nuzhaintha Varalaru Adhan Pinnani Arasiyal Soozhnilaigal), Thiru. R.Kaliappan (Aanirai) and Dr. N.Vennila (Pazhanthamizhar Manudaviyal).

Awardees for the year 2021-2022: Thiru. S.K.Anthonypaul (Parayargal Atchiyum Veezhchiyum), Thiru. T. Manoharan (Indhiya Nattin Gauravam Dr. Ambedkar), Pulavar. Era.Nagaraj (Paintamizh Poonkattru), Thiru. Karuvur Kannal (Oru Oorin Kathai).Thiru. Anbudeepan (Aval Thediya Sontham), Thiru. Thangasengathir alias T.Senthilkumar (Manuda Therippukal), Thiru. A.P.Karl Marx Sidhathar (Ambedkarin Buddharum Avar Thammamum), Thiru. T. Karuppasami (Siddhar Ilakkiyangal Kaattum Anmeegamum Maruthuvamum), Dr.M.Tamilselvi (Nizhal Parugum Neer), Dr.J.Mathivendan (Sangam – Collection of research articles). Totally 21 best writers were given Rs. 25,000 each as the first instalment and a Commendation Certificate by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

In connection with the 75th Independence Day Amuda Peruvizha, on behalf of the Union Government's Tribal Welfare Department, 9th national-level exhibition (Live Demonstration and Sale of products) was organized at Bhubhaneswar in Odisha from 23.04.2022 to 29.04.2022. In the exhibition, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Tribes, 3 women belonging to Toda Community were selected and sent as representatives to the exhibition, in which Handicrafts of 62 Tribal groups were displayed in 200 stalls of the exhibition.

At the Tribal meet, the embroidery designed with red and black woollen threads by the Tribal Research Centre of Udhagamandalam won the first prize of Rs.5,000 and a shield at the national level. Toda tribal women and the centre's Director (in-charge) met the Hon'ble Chief Minister and received his good wishes.

Hon’ble Chief Minister opens Tambaram-Velachery arm of Medavakkam flyover built at Rs. 95.21 crore

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open the Tambaram-Velachery arm of the Medavakkam flyover at Medavakkam in Chengalpattu District, constructed at a cost of Rs. 95.21 crore, on 13.05.2022, on behalf of the Highways and Minor Ports Department.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister has already declared open the Velachery and Koyambedu flyovers in the previous year. The second arm of the flyover, built at a cost of Rs.146.41 crore at Medavakkam, was declared open on 13.05.2022, under the Chennai Metropolitan Development scheme. The second arm of the flyover links three major road junctions – Maraimalai Adigal Bridge in Medavakkam, Sholinganallur-Medavakkam junction in Irumbuliyur and Medavakkam-Mambakkam Bridge and Mount-Medavakkam Road Junction. Two unidirectional three-lane flyovers have been built.

The 1.06 km-long first arm of the flyover on the Velachery-Tambaram Road, which was declared open earlier, links Medavakkam-Sholinganallur Junction Road and Medavakkam-Mambakkam Road Junction. This portion of the flyover has already been thrown open for public use.

Now the second arm of the 2.03 km-long overbridge on the Tambaram- Velachery Route that links Mount Medavakkam Road Junction, Medavakkam-Mambakkam Road Junction and Medavakkam-Sholinganallur Road Junction has been now thrown open for public use.

The opening of the new flyover will ease traffic congestion in the Medavakkam area and will be beneficial to school-going children and the travelling public. It will reduce the travelling time of motorists. The flyover will also be beneficial to people going to Tambaram, Velachery, Thoraipakkam, Pallikaranai, East Coast Road, I.T. Park, Taramani, Adyar, Medavakkam, Sholinganallur and Madipakkam

MoU for Chess Olympiad at Mamallapuram

In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed at the Secretariat on 14.05.2022 between the Government of Tamil Nadu and the All India Chess Federation (AICF) in connection with the holding of the 44th Chess Olympiad-2022 at Mamallapuram.

This is the first time the Chess Olympiad competition is to be held in Tamil Nadu in Indian history. The competition will be held from 28.07.2022 to 10.08.2022. More than 2,000 chess players, men and women belonging to 186 countries, are to participate.

Following the signing of the MoU, the participants in the competitions met the Hon'ble Chief Minister and sought his best wishes.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates AI-enabled CCTVs and panic buttons in 500 Chennai buses

For the safe travel of the public in the 2,500 MTC buses in Chennai, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated at the Secretariat on 14.05.2022 the work of fixing CCTV cameras and panic buttons in 500 buses in the first phase, and their preliminary activities. The work is being undertaken under the Nirbhaya Safe City Project.

The purpose of the release of the preliminary activities is to activate the Nirbhaya Safe City Project and to establish direct contact with the police and ambulance control centres.

Three CCTV cameras, 4 panic buttons and Artificial Intelligence-enabled Mobile Network Video Recorder (MNVR) are fixed in each bus for this. The MNVR will be connected to a cloud- based control centre via a 4G GSM SIM card.

This entire set up will be monitored through the Integrated Command and Control Centre, functioning in the Metropolitan Transport Corporation. The Data Centre from these continuous activities will join the Cloud.

When a fellow traveller causes inconvenience and when a threat emerges for the safety of a woman, the panic button can be pressed and record those incidents. Pressing the panic button will trigger an alarm bell at the control centre displaying a portion of the video recording of the incident. At this alarm, the operator at the control centre will monitor the situation and will do the needful for the action to be taken next on a real-time basis. For this, the control centre will be connected with the police and Greater Chennai Corporation Emergency Reply Centre. During the implementation of this scheme, steps are undertaken for real time emergency calls to reach the police control room.

As a part of this scheme, it is proposed to bring 31 depots of the MTC and 35 bus terminuses under central surveillance. In this scheme, an artificial intelligence-based video analysis system has been used. This will enable tracing of missing persons and identify persons known to be culprits. The implementation of this scheme will greatly aid in the various activities of the Departments of Police, Transport and to the Greater Chennai Corporation.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented on compassionate grounds, appointment orders to 10 persons as a token of distributing such orders to the heirs of 136 staff of the Government of Tamil Nadu Transport Corporations (excluding the MTC) and the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicle Maintenance Department, who had died while in service. The orders pertain to the posts of driver cum conductor (5), driver (21), conductor (106) and to the posts of Junior Assistant and Office Assistant (4) in the Motor Vehicle Maintenance Department.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates special camp for identifying children with nutritional needs

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated on 21.05.2022, a special medical camp for ascertaining the growth of children below 6 years of age under the ‘Ensure Nutrition’ scheme at Muthorai Children Centre in Doddabetta Panchayat in the Nilgiris District.

Keeping in mind the fact that healthy children are the country’s future wealth, the Hon’ble Chief Minister made an announcement on 07.05.2022 in the Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 that it was proposed to medically test children extensively with the purpose of providing health care to children below 6 years of age and that the Government had decided to provide medical assistance to children who needed nutrition by implementing a special nutrition scheme.

It will be implemented jointly through the integrated child welfare scheme and Health Department. Special medical tests will be performed for children below 6 years of age with severe and medium nutrition deficiency, segregating children as those requiring medical assistance and those requiring nutrition and steps will be taken to remove nutrition deficiency.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurated a special medical camp for malnourished children under the ‘Ootachchathai Urudhi Sei’ scheme.

These special testing camps will be held for a month in all districts. Children with severe and medium nutrition deficiency will be monitored and the required steps for their growth will be taken. Details of children subjected to special medical tests will be uploaded and monitored in the special application (App), designed exclusively for it. After the medical tests, a separate special nutrition scheme will be designed for children who need only nutrition.

Hon'ble Chief Minister launches Kalaignar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme for full-fledged growth of villages

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated, the Kalaignar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme (KAVIAD), costing Rs. 227 crore to benefit 9 lakh families of farmers in 1,997 Village Panchayats, at the Secretariat on 23.05.2022. The scheme is launched on behalf of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

When the first historic agriculture budget in Tamil Nadu was tabled on 14.08.2021, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare announced that a huge new scheme – Kalaignar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development scheme – will be implemented in 5 years with the co-ordination of all Departments to bring about a full-fledged development in agriculture. The scheme aims at a total growth of all villages to make them self-sufficient.

The scheme will be implemented to attain the Hon'ble Chief Minister's 10-year visionary goals of additionally bringing in under cultivation 11.75 lakh hectares, increasing the land area under double crop cultivation to 20 lakh hectares and capture the first three slots at national level in the productivity of food grains and coconut, cotton, sunflower and groundnut crops.

Under this scheme to be implemented in 1,997 Village Panchayats for the year 2021-2022, works like the following will be executed in these villages also: coconut saplings, seeds for pulse crops, sprinklers, and vegetable packs for setting up house gardens; incentive for cultivation of horticulture crops, fruit baskets and drums, fruit bearing plants and clusters of tree saplings; setting up bore wells/ tube wells in fallow lands; providing micro irrigation facility with electric motors and wells with 100% subsidy to Adi Dravidar farmers; setting up farm ponds, minor irrigation tanks, tanks, Ooranis and de-silting of supply canals.

After inaugurating the Kalaignar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister issued work orders to beneficiaries like for setting up bore wells for the members of the association of farmers coming under the fallow land category, incentives for the cultivation of coconut and horticulture trees/plants, tree saplings for planting along the field bunds to rear trees and fruit-bearing plants, work orders with 100 % subsidy to Adi Dravidar farmers to set up wells with motor and micro irrigation facility, orders for farm ponds and agri-clinics etc.

In his speech later, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said: Muthamizharignar Kalaignar who was constantly concerned about farmers, provided free electricity for agriculture, the first-ever such scheme in India and thus recorded an achievement to improve the livelihood and protect the welfare of farmers. He allowed free transport of farmers produce in buses to improve their income. He created 'Uzhavar Sandhais'. It was our Muthamizharignar Kalaignar who waived agriculture loans and thus helped farmers to raise themselves up in life.

Our Government continues to implement many schemes for the sake of farmers who abided in the thoughts of Kalaignar, one who had fought all through his life for the full-fledged development of Tamil Nadu and all communities.

Our Government has always been protecting farmers and has changed the name of the Agriculture Department as Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department for the sake of the welfare of farmers and honoured them by tabling an exclusive budget for agriculture.

In the context of our Government prioritizing farmers' welfare, Nature has also given good co-operation and I will be releasing water from Mettur dam for kuruvai cultivation this year on May 24 itself. I am happy to share this information with you now itself.

I have drafted 7 visionary schemes for the development of Tamil Nadu. One of them is "Increased production-Happy farmer". The Kalaignar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development (KAVIAD) has been designed to implement that visionary scheme. The main purpose of this scheme is wholesome agriculture development and creation of self-sufficient villages.

We propose to implement the KAVIAD scheme in all the 12,525 Village Panchayats in 5 years. The speciality of the KAVIAD scheme is that, as it is implemented in co-ordination with the huge All Village Anna Renaissance scheme of the Rural Development Department, the integration at the village level will be good.

Today, I have inaugurated this scheme for the year of 2021-2022 in 1,997 Village Panchayats at a cost of Rs. 227 crore. The important aspect of this scheme is integrating the welfare schemes of all Government Departments at the village level and executing them.

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar was a magnificent leader who toiled throughout his life to achieve progress through integration of all the communities in Tamil Nadu. As this scheme also prioritizes integration, we have added glory to the scheme by naming it after Kalaignar. It fits the scheme greatly.

The main aims of this scheme

are: bringing fallow lands in villages under cultivation; increasing water resources and creation of micro irrigation facility with solar energy pump sets; value-addition and marketing of agriculture produce; setting up farm ponds, developing village agri-infrastructure, increasing milk production by taking care of Animal Husbandry – all through the Department of Rural Development; name change in patta, e-adangal and issue of certificate to small/ micro farmers (through Revenue Department); increased quantum of crop loans through co-operative societies. I wish to inform you that scheme works of all Departments for the development of village economy including dredging of irrigation canals and channels will be integrated and implemented.

"A single tree cannot become a grove", "Unity brings in innumerable good things" – are well known proverbs. In accordance with them, farmers in selected villages will be brought together to form farmer-producer teams for getting the necessary technological training and through them, the schemes of the various divisions of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, will be implemented. I am sure this will strengthen the full-fledged development of villages.

Moreover, since the schemes are to be implemented jointly by the Department of Rural Development and Local Administration, villages will become self-sufficient. This will prevent villagers' migration to cities.

At a time when rural development should become a massive people's movement, this scheme is being implemented with the important aim that all the farmers in the villages should be made to benefit at least by one scheme.

I therefore request the staff of all the Departments to implement the Kalaignar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development scheme with dedication and focus. I affectionately request the agriculturists to extend full co-operation to the Government and its officials. With this, I wind up my presidential speech.

News in Picture

Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan presided over a review meeting of the Regional Joint Directors and the District Information and Public Relations officers at the Secretariat on 18.05.2022 through video conferencing. The Hon'ble Minister for Information urged at the meeting that the task of taking the schemes and achievements of the Government to the people should be undertaken with dedication and without any slackening and that the announcements made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on behalf of the Department of Information and Public Relations and those announced in the Department's demands for grants should be speedily implemented by framing an action plan.

Record early release of water from Mettur dam for kuruvai cultivation by Hon'ble Chief Minister

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** opened the sluices of Mettur Reservoir and released water on 24.05.2022 to facilitate kuruvai cultivation in the Delta Districts.

Previous year the water was released from the Mettur Reservoir on the scheduled date i.e, on 12.06.2022 for kuruvai cultivation and the State created a record in the kuruvai harvest.

As there is good rainfall in the catchment areas of the River Cauvery, there has been good inflow into the Mettur Reservoir. As on 24.05.2022, the storage at the Reservoir was 89.942 tmc and the water level was 117.760 ft. As the inflows continue to be good, the reservoir is expected to reach its full capacity soon. Considering the welfare of the delta farmers, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the officials to open the Reservoir well in advance on May 24th itself as against the normal opening of June 12.

Since the building of the Mettur reservoir, this is the first time that it has been ever opened on May 24 for kuruvai cultivation as against the routine date of June 12.

Also, this is the first time since Independence that water has been released from the Mettur Reservoir on

May 24th as against the normal opening date of June 12.

Benefits of opening the Reservoir in advance

- By opening the reservoir in advance, water will uniformly reach areas throughout the Delta Districts and thereby underground water will be recharged.
- The early release will enable the water to reach all areas till the tail-end.
- Due to early release of water, it is possible to cover 5.22 lakh acres under the kuruvai crop. It will also facilitate taking up early Samba cultivation activities.
- As there is a possibility of increase in ground-water level, more areas will be brought under pulse and millet varieties under summer cultivation. Moreover, due to desilting of canals, water will reach the tail-end areas early benefiting farmers in the tail-end areas. Now 93.860 tmc of water is required for kuruvai crops under 4,91,200 acres of land in Namakkal, Karur, Tiruchi, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai Districts and another 5.88 tmc of water for crops under 30,800 acres of land in Cuddalore and Ariyalur Districts from the Reservoir.

To start with, about 3,000 cusecs of water was released from the Reservoir in the morning on 24.05.2022, which was gradually increased to 10,000 cusecs in the evening. This will continue till June 30th. Again the release will be gradually increased to 16,000 cusecs in July and to 18,000 cusecs in August, depending on the requirement.

Samba and Thaladi Cultivation

For samba and thaladi cultivation about 205.60 tmc water is required from the Mettur Reservoir from September 15 to January 28 for crops under 12,10,000 acres of land. For this 108.50 tmc of water will be released from the reservoir and the balance of 97.10 tmc will be met from the monsoon and ground water.

From the Lower Cauvery River, daily more than 1,700 million litres of water is used for 155 drinking water schemes in 18 Districts throughout the year. In addition, water from the reservoir is drawn for use by more than 30 industries.

When water is released from the reservoir for irrigation and drinking water purposes, 50 MW power from the Reservoir Power House and another 200 MW from the tunnel power house, totalling 250 MW power, is generated. From the reservoir, 7 x 30 MW, totally 210 MW power is generated from the 7 hydro electric power stations.

Water will be released from the reservoir based on the North-East Monsoon rainfall. Farmers are requested to use water judiciously and co-operate with the officials when water is released through the turn system.

First state-level festival held for skill development of youth

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated the first state-level 'youth skill development festival' at Queen Mary's College, Chennai, on 25.05.2022. The festival has been organized on behalf of the Departments of Rural Development and Local Administration and Labour Welfare and Skill Development.

It was announced in the Demands for Grants for the Department of Rural Development and Local Administration for the year 2022-2023, that these festivals would be conducted in 388 taluks for improving the skills of youth by integrating the skill training centres in the public and private sectors and that these festivals would be greatly helpful for the youth to know about the industries that offered greater employment opportunities and to get awareness and information about them at the same time. It was further announced that Rs. 1.94 crore would be allotted for this.

By way of implementing this announcement and acting as a bridge between the youth in Tamil Nadu and skill development training institutions, counselling halls and pavilions for selling the products of women self help groups were set up in this festival. Arrangements were made for youth wishing to participate in the festival to register their bio-data at the place of the event itself.

Experts gave information to youth in detail about the skill development training, its branches, job opportunities and the payment offered in the industrial sectors like electronics, communication, journalism and entertainment, information technology and information technology enabled services, design for readymade clothes, banks, financial services and insurance sector, handicrafts and floor spread, jewellery designing and food processing.

Besides declaring open the sales pavilions of women self help groups and visiting them, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the counselling halls also and interacted with the youth. Later, he distributed certificates to the youth who had undergone skill development and appointment orders to those selected.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over collateral bank loan facilities to the tune of Rs. 25.66 crore for 608 women Self Help Groups to start vocations like vegetable and fruit sales, grocery shop, petty shop and tailoring.

The sales exhibition of products of the SHGs at the Queen Mary's college continued till 29.05.2022.

'Police, Our Friend'

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** at the event of the presentation of medals of the President of India, Union Home Minister and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, to police and other similar Department Personnel, held at the Rajarathinam Stadium, Egmore on 27.05.2022 *(English Translation)*.

This event for the presentation of the medals of the President of India, Union Home Minister and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, has been organized with great enthusiasm and éclat. Personnel of the Departments of Police, Anti-Corruption and Vigilance, Fire and Rescue Services, Prison and Reformation, Home Guard and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection and Forensic Department have received these awards. The medals have been awarded for acts of gallantry, distinguished service, meritorious work, acts of good service, excellence in public service, excellence in investigation, best Police training, special duty, excellence in fingerprint science, excellence in technology and excellence in forensic science.

I congratulate and greet heartily all the heroic personnel who have received the medals and wish them several such honours. I request the other security personnel to aim and get such awards.

The Police force implies readiness for heroic and gallant acts. Receiving medals in that sphere means exhibition of greater intensity in performing those acts. This is a great recognition for you. Everyone in this field should take a vow to get this recognition.

These medals should not merely be for heroic acts but to promote humanistic culture also. We say 'Police is our friend'. For such friends and for those who conduct themselves as friends, medals should be presented. Police constables who excel in protecting people should be appreciated.

The closeness of the Police with people will bring down crimes in the country. If the Police personnel distance themselves from people, crimes will grow. So, Policemen should conduct themselves in a way that earns them the name, 'Police is our friend'. The performance of Police stations should be like that of public relations security offices. They should act like that.

If the administration is one arm of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the other arm is the Police Department. I have stated this in the Assembly itself. Through this, you can realize the importance of the Police Department.

People think that securing punishment to criminals is the only duty of the Police Department. I continue to emphasize that this Department should change itself to be able to create an ambience where no crimes take place. My request, from the Director General of Police to the last constable, is that the Department should plan for a stage where crimes don't occur in any situation. Let no one forget that failure to discharge his/her duty even by one constable or Police Station brings shame

to the entire Police Department. The action of a constable, whoever he may be should make the Department feel proud, not hang its head down. If all the constables imbibe this feeling of caution, Tamil Nadu will turn into a State free of crimes.

The Police Department should act strictly with these aims in mind: it should not allow any situation to develop that strikes fear in people; violence should not be allowed to erupt on any account – political, communal or on account of caste; it should be put down with an iron hand those who plan to create such a critical situation to Government; drug trafficking should be totally prevented; mercenaries should be weeded out completely and illicit liquor should be destroyed totally. I wish the Tamil Nadu Police Department should get a medal for overall peace by creating the above said ambience.

We are presenting a Dravidian Model rule as a model for all. We are framing schemes on the noble principles of 'inclusive development' and 'all things for all people'. The basis for all this to materialize is peace. Peace alone can bring about industrial or social development.

If new industries are springing in Tamil Nadu after the regime change, it is due to the prevalence of peace in the state; if new agreements are signed, it is due to the rule of law in Tamil Nadu. We should protect that peaceful atmosphere. I wish to repeatedly emphasize that not even a small incident should occur to disturb that peace.

Even as it is your duty to protect the people, the Government has a duty to protect you. Keeping this in mind, we have framed many schemes in the past one year.

★ A weekly holiday has been announced for Police constables to head constables;

★ A fortnightly holiday has been declared for special sub-inspectors and sub-inspectors;

★ As a Corona period incentive, constables were given Rs. 5,000;

★ The distress allowance to constables increased to Rs. 1,000 from Rs. 800;

★ Minor punishment to 2,212 constables lessened;

★ Receptionist post in Police station given to 1,132 persons on compassionate grounds;

★ New Police commissionerates set up in Tambaram and Avadi;

★ The plinth area of houses constructed in Police Department increased to 750 sq.ft.;

★ Training is given to 1.20 lakh Police personnel through Anna Management Centre, Chennai, at an expenditure of Rs. 10 crore;

★ Food allowance is given to the Police staff working in special divisions in Chennai;

★ Personnel in the planned crime intelligence section are given a 5% special salary.

- ★ Health care facilities have been provided in Police hospitals for the staff of the Fire and Prison Departments.
- ★ Above all these, a new Police commission has been set up. After receiving the report of this Commission, the demands of the Police Department will be examined by the Government and they will be implemented in stages. Through this event, I give this assurance.

Besides these, I announce another happy matter in this event. The incentive and concessions given to the recipients of the Chief Minister's gallantry award - officers, constables and families of personnel who have laid down their lives heroically – will hereafter be on par with those given to the President of India's gallantry award.

The Government will carefully nurture the welfare of Police personnel. Requesting the Police to take care of the people, I take leave of you, congratulating all the medallists once again. ●

HR and CE book documents retrieval of temple properties

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** released on 17.05.2022 a book brought out by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, containing details of the properties of its temples which it has retrieved from encroachers; the first copy of the book was received by the Hon'ble Minister for HR & CE Thiru. P.K. Sekarbabu.

Of the encroached properties of Tamil Nadu temples that are our cultural identity, the first retrieved were the properties of Arulmigu Vadapalani Andavar temple, Chennai worth Rs. 250 crore, on 06.06.2021. Following this, properties of temples in various districts were retrieved very speedily. The book is a compilation of the details of the retrieved temple properties from 07.05.2021 to 31.03.2022, survey works of temple lands, and details of land, site, building and temple tanks retrieved from encroachment. It will serve as a document to protect temple properties in future.

Retrieved properties are measured with Rover machines and are protected by fencing with stone pillars engraved with the insignia HRCE.

Such properties ensure that temples remain sustainable worshiping centres and capable of providing many facilities to devotees for years together. ●

Hon'ble Chief Minister reviews desilting operations in Beemanodai drainage canal

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** reviewed the desilting operations in the Beemanodai Canal in Vadapathi Kokkeri Village in Papanasam Taluk in Thanjavur District, being done at a cost of Rs.14.50 lakh, on 30.05.2022.

For the first time since independence, water from the Mettur Reservoir was released for kuruvai cultivation on May 24 itself as against the scheduled date of June 12.

Since the water has been released well in advance, more areas will be brought under kuruvai crops this year and also pave the way for early beginning of Samba crop cultivation.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister had directed the officials to carry out the desilting operations in 10 delta districts at a cost of Rs. 80 crore for a length of 4,964 km, before the onset of monsoon. He had directed that the desilting work should be carried out in co-ordination with the farmers' groups in a transparent manner.

As per the Hon'ble Chief Minister's directive, 170 desilting works are being carried out at a cost of Rs.21 crore. In continuation of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the progress of the desilting operation in the Beemanodai Drainage Canal from 0 km to 4.50 km in Vadapathi Kokkeri Village in Papanasam Taluk, Thanjavur District.

The Beemanodai Drainage Canal provides irrigation for about 315 acres of land. But the water way of the canal was choked with mounds, weeds and bushes of wild castor, obstructing free flow of water. Due to this water could not reach tail-end areas when released for irrigation and the flood water could not drain during monsoons. At a cost of Rs. 14.50 crore, desilting operations were carried out. Due to this desilting operations, Vadapathi Kokkeri, Sikkapet, Karuppu Muthaliar kottai, Senapettai and Keezhapattu villages will be benefited.

Increased production - Happy farmers

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** visited and reviewed the dredging operations undertaken in the Cauvery delta Districts of Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai and Tiruvarur on 31.05.2022, met farmers and learnt about their demands.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has issued a G.O. allotting Rs. 80 crore for a special dredging scheme in the Cauvery delta districts to clear irrigation rivers, canals and outlet channels of weeds and other debris. Accordingly, 683 dredging works were taken up and completed to a distance of 4,964.11 km in the Districts of Tiruchi, Karur, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai and Cuddalore with 916 machines. Besides the executive engineers involved at present, engineers from other divisions also were drafted in.

For daily monitoring of the dredging works, a Farmer's Committee comprising representatives of Farmers, Village Administrative Officer, Assistant Manager, Panchayat Secretary and Assistant Engineer of Water Resources Department was set up for every work and the task was completed well.

Besides this, the Government of Tamil Nadu appointed an I.A.S., officer for every district for proper execution of the dredging works and cent per cent of them were completed fully. As all these works have been completed, speedy water flow to the tail-end areas from Mettur has been ensured. The groundwater level also will rise due to these works.

For the first time in the annals of the release of Mettur Dam water, the water release this year was advanced to May 24 instead of the customary date of June 12. As the dredging works also have been undertaken in an excellent manner by the Government of Tamil Nadu , an increase in cultivation area is expected this year – to 5.20 lakh acres in kuruvai and to 13.5 lakh acres in samba crop. Since the preliminary works for samba crop will be taken up in advance, the crop will be protected from submergence during the North-East monsoon; and the yield from the summer crops may also increase on account of the rise in the water table, benefiting the farmers.

NAGAPATTINAM DISTRICT – DREDGING WORKS: The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the dredging works undertaken to a length of 3.50 km in the Kallar drainage canal in Karuvelankadai and Kallar Village, Keezhvelur Taluk, Nagapattinam District, executed at a cost of Rs. 15 lakh. This will help draining of water in 1,500 acres; it also benefits Karuvelankadai and Kurichi Villages. Following this, he distributed welfare assistance to beneficiaries under the Kalaignar

Mayiladuthurai - Ananthamangalam

Mayiladuthurai – Thirukadaiyur Village

Thiruvarur - Kothangudi Village

Mayiladuthurai – Nalladai Village

All Village Integrated Agriculture Development scheme (KAVIAD).

MAYILADUTHURAI DISTRICT – Direct paddy sowing and machine sowing of paddy: The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the direct sowing of paddy through machine at Ananthamangalam Village, Sembanarkoil Taluk, Mayiladuthurai District.

Direct paddy sowing by farmers reduces the quantum of seeds to be used, expenditure on raising nursery and in sowing; there is also a possibility of advancing the harvest by 10 to 15 days, enabling its completion before the onset of the North-East Monsoon.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inspected the machine-sowing of paddy at Nalladai Village.

Ramachandran vaikkal: The Hon'ble Chief Minister visited and reviewed the dredging works undertaken in Ramachandran Vaikkal in Thirukadaiyur Village, Mayiladuthurai District, to a length of 5.60 kms at a cost of Rs.5.65 lakh. Ramachandran Vaikkal is the 3rd sub-branch canal of Manjalaru, runs to a distance of 5.60 Kms, carrying 52 cft. of water to provide irrigation to about 365 acres of fields. A major part of this canal is covered with sand dunes and weeds, hindering flow of water and during flood times in the draining of water. Thirukadaiyur and Pillaiperumalnallur Villages are the beneficiaries of the dredging of this canal.

TIRUVARUR DISTRICT – DREDGING WORKS: Kothangudi Kaalvai – The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the dredging works undertaken in Kothangudi Kaalvai, Kothangudi Village, Nannilam Taluk, Thiruvarur District to a distance of 5 km at a cost of Rs. 9.95 lakh. This will help irrigation in 232 acres. Kothangudi and Kaduvankudi Villages will benefit.

Peralam Vaikkal – Dredging works undertaken in Peralam Vaikkal, Peralam Village, Nannilam Taluk, Tiruvarur District were inspected by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The works covered a length of 4 km and were executed at a cost of Rs. 8.50 lakh. This will provide irrigation to 177 acres; beneficiaries are Peralam and Veeraanatham villages.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at a press meet at Tiruchi airport *(English Translation)*

For the past two days, I have been touring the Cauvery delta districts to inspect the water resources works, to expedite and regulate them. The tour had been a happy and satisfactory one. I am happy to meet you also.

You would not have forgotten the 7 assurances I had made in this same Trichy at a massive public meeting just before the election. These were those assurances: (1) Growing opportunities – Prosperous Tamil Nadu; (2) Increased Production – Happy farmer; (3) Enough water for all citizens; (4) High level education and Health care for all; (5) A state with beautiful cities; (6) A high class rural framework, a high standard of living; and (7) Abundance in Thamizhagam in all fields.

I hope you will not deny that the schemes taken up by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the past one year are in line with implementing these assurances.

Only in that respect, I undertook and completed a lightning tour of the delta districts in the last two days to see how the assurance 'increased production-happy farmer' is fairing. You know, in the last year itself the production had increased and the farmers were happy.

Usually, the kuruvai crop is taken up in 3.5 lakh acres in the Cauvery delta districts of Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Mayiladuthurai, Cuddalore, Ariyalur and Tiruchi.

Last year, 647 dredging were undertaken at a cost of Rs. 65 crore in waterways for a distance of 4,061 kms so as to ensure free flow of water to the tail end in these districts. On the customary date of June, water was released from Mettur reservoir on June 12. The kuruvai package scheme was also implemented at a cost of Rs. 61.09 crore. As a result of these, the acreage under kuruvai and samba crops in the previous year crossed the fixed target with 4.90 lakh acres and 13.34 lakh acres respectively and a record was established in food grain production. We are trying to repeat that record this year also.

I had ordered the speedy completion – before the onset of monsoon - of the 683 dredging works in the delta districts for a length of 4,964 km at a cost of Rs. 80 crore.

In the first phase, the work of measuring the boundaries of water resources and removal of encroachments were taken up on April 23 with the co-operation of the Revenue Department. I.A.S., officers were posted to every district as monitoring officers and 865 heavy weight machines were put into use. The work of dredging waterways has been completed today excellently.

Dredging works in 'C' and 'D' channels, running to 1,580 km are being carried out at present at an estimate of Rs. 5 crore. They will be completed shortly.

District-wise, 19 works were completed at a cost of Rs. 2.85 crore in Karur, 90 in Tiruchi (Rs. 18.75 crore), 40 in Perambalur (Rs. 2.48 crore),

16 in Ariyalur (Rs. One crore), 20 in Pudukkottai (Rs. 1.10 crore), 170 in Thanjavur (Rs. 21 crore), 115 in Tiruvarur (Rs.12 crore), 30 in Nagapattinam (Rs. 3.46 crore), 49 in Mayiladuthurai (Rs. 8.70 crore) and 134 in Cuddalore (Rs. 8.50 crore), totalling to a length of 4,418 km.

All people know that water is usually released from Mettur reservoir for kuruvai cultivation on June 12 and that this year it was advanced to May 24. This is the earliest date that Mettur dam has been opened in the annals of Independent India. This is the first occasion and this has happened this year.

On account of this, it is expected the cultivation area this year will increase to 5.20 lakh acres for kuruvai crop and to 13.5 lakh acres for samba crop in the delta districts. As the preparatory work for samba cultivation gets advanced, the crop will be protected from floods during the North-East monsoon; as the water table rises, there is a possibility of summer crops being cultivated in more areas. As on date, kuruvai paddy cultivation has been taken up in 1,56,352 lakh acres.

You know Tamil Nadu's financial condition. Still, the DMK Government has never winced while helping farmers. I wish to inform the farmers' community through you that the kuruvai package will be implemented this year also at a cost of Rs. 61 crore in the interest of farmers. This package will benefit 3 lakh farmers.

To increase agriculture productivity, a fertilizer package of urea, DAP and potash, valued at Rs. 47 crore and for use in 1.90 lakh acres, will be distributed to farmers with full subsidy. Through the agriculture extension centres, 2,400 metric tonnes of paddy seeds (Rs. 4.20 crore) will be distributed at 50 % subsidy. Through the Department of Agriculture Engineering, 237 agriculture machines including tractors and other agri-implements will be provided at 50% subsidy (Rs. 6.06 crore).

Through all these, previous year's achievement is going to continue this year. We are confident that the benefit will be more.

On this occasion, I request the delta farmers to make proper use of the Cauvery water that has been released in advance, utilize the various farmer's welfare schemes implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu and set up a new record in paddy production this year also.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates dynamic lighting of Ripon building

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** dedicated the illuminated Ripon Building to the public at a function in the Corporation Building complex on 02.06.2022. The Corporation was decorated with changing colour lights, at a cost of Rs. 1.81 crore, under the Greater Singara Chennai 2.0 Scheme.

When the Hon’ble Chief Minister, was the Mayor of the Chennai Corporation, he launched Singara Chennai Scheme, to upgrade the city on par with international cities. Under the scheme, over-bridges, small bridges, parks, fountains, beautification of beaches and road expansion projects were undertaken.

In the year 2011, the area of the Corporation was expanded to 426 sq.km by including 42 neighbouring local bodies in the Chennai Corporation. Subsequently not much attention was given to improving the basic infrastructure of the newly included areas. To provide basic infrastructure facilities to the newly included areas and to improve the standard of the Greater Chennai Corporation on par with international cities, the Hon’ble Chief Minister announced the implementation of Singara Chennai 2.0.

As a part of it, in the budget demand of the Municipal Administration and Water Supplies for the financial year 2021-2022 , the Government conceived the Singara Chennai 2.0 scheme to improve the infrastructure of the 42 newly added local bodies with the Greater Chennai Corporation and allotted Rs. 500 crore for it.

Under the Singara Chennai 2.0 scheme, the infrastructure of the Corporation Schools will be improved with modern facilities, historically significant buildings will be renovated, the green cover of the city increased by forming new parks on roadsides and road medians, there will be perpendicular parks and colour lights on road overbridges, the beaches will be improved and modernised for the use of general public and differently-abled persons, water bodies will be renovated and upgraded, integrated play grounds will be set up and public toilets will be renovated and maintained properly.

During the financial year 2021-2022, under the Singara Chennai 2.0 scheme, permission has been granted for implementing 183 new schemes at a cost of Rs. 409.19 crore and works are going on.

On that basis, the historic Greater Chennai Corporation Ripon Building, popularly known as Ripon Buildings, under the Singara Chennai 2.0 scheme will be beautified with colour lights at a cost of Rs.1.81 crore. Through this, the 3 basic colours, red, green and blue, are combined to get different kinds of colours to beautify the Corporation Building.

By implementing this beautification scheme to create awareness among people, during Republic and Independence Days, the front portion of the buildings will be illuminated with tri-colour; pink lighting will signify Breast Cancer Awareness Day, orange lighting to signify World Multiple Sclerosis Day, and blue to signify World Down Syndrome Day.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed that there should be a cleanliness drive in all the cities on the second and fourth Saturdays; as a reminder of this the building will be illuminated with white colour lights on those days.

At the function, Hon'ble Chief Minister released a booklet on achievements of the Greater Chennai Corporation, including development works and schemes undertaken in the last one year.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, while dedicating illuminated Ripon Building.

My kind welcome to all of you.

Though the Ripon Building is white in colour in the morning, it glows with colour lights in the evening. I thank those who gave me an opportunity to launch this project.

The Ripon Building is a historic building. When I was a high school student, the school conducted tours and used to take us to various places of interest, such as Adyar Banyan Tree, Museum, Zoological Park, Gandhi Mandapam, Ripon Building and Victoria Hall in Chennai. I used to be wonder-struck on seeing the historic buildings. I am really proud to have got an opportunity to inaugurate the illuminated Ripon Building.

Not only that, when the DMK came to power in 1996, all party functionaries insisted upon the party president Dr. Kalaignar to include me in the Cabinet. But Kalaignar did not heed their request. After the formation of the Government, the long-pending election for the post of Mayor was held. At that time, for the first time direct election to the post of Mayor was conducted and We won the election. I was the only Mayor elected directly to the post.

After that, the date for the swearing - in ceremony was fixed. The invitation for the same was shown to Kalaignar by us. At the back side of the invitation card a picture of the Ripon building was there. Thalaivar Kalaignar noticed it. He keenly looked at the Ripon building picture. At that time, Dr.Kalaignar told DMK functionaries with pride that they wanted to make Stalin a Minister and confine him to a small room. But I have made him sit in a bigger building with the Mayor's post. I am reminded of these words now. Whenever I cross this building, I remember the words of Dr.Kalaignar.

I congratulate the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, the Corporation Commissioner, the Secretary of the Department Thiru. Shiv Das Meena I.A.S., for making the Ripon building attractive by illuminating it with colour lights. I thank the authorities for giving me an opportunity to inaugurate the decorated building.

Six award-winning Tamil writers allotted flats in TNHB multi-storeyed buildings

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** presented on 03.06.2022, allotment orders under the Dream House Scheme to six writers from the state in the Tamil Nadu Housing Board's multi-storeyed buildings.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the scheme on 03.06.2021 to incentivize writers from Tamil Nadu who have won national awards like Jnanpith and Sahitya Akademi, state literary awards and awards from well-known international institutions. The choice of choosing the house is left to the awardees - in the districts they currently reside or the district of their choice.

The awardees are presently honoured are: Thiru. N. Jagadeesan alias Thamizhanban, Sahitya Akademi awardee in 2004 for his poetic work 'Vanakkam Valluva' and Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Awardee for the year 2018;

Kavignar Puviarasu alias S. Jagannathan, Sahitya Akademi awardee in 2009 for his poetic work 'Kaiyoppam' (Signature); Dr.E. Sundaramoorthy, Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil awardee in 2012 for his literary works;

Thiru. Poomani alias P. Manickavasakam, Sahitya Akademi awardee in 2014 for his novel 'Agnaadi';

Dr. Ku. Mohanarasu, Kalaignar M.Karunanidhi Classical Tamil awardee in 2014 for his literary works; Thiru. V. Annamalai alias Imayam, Sahitya Akademi awardee in 2020 for his novel 'Sellaatha Panam'.

Kalaignar Ninaivu Kalaithurai Vithagar Award

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** honoured the famous cine dialogue writer Thiru. Arurdas by presenting the Kalaignar Ninaivu Kalaithurai Vithagar Award and the award money of Rs. 10 lakh through a cheque at his house in T. Nagar, Chennai on 03.06.2022.

Kalaignar Ezhuthukol Virudhu

In connection with the birth anniversary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** presented to senior journalist Thiru. I. Shanmuganathan, the Kalaignar Ezhuthukol Virudhu and the award money of Rs. 5 lakh through a cheque on behalf of the Department of Information and Public Relations, at the Secretariat on 03.06.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister rings in cleanliness campaign at Mint Street in Royapuram

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated the People's Movement for Clean Cities and Awareness camps at Mint Road at Royapuram in Chennai on 03.06.2022, on behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department.

People's Movement for clean cities

At the budget demand of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply for the year 2022-2023, it was announced that to ensure a clean and green environment, every month on the second and fourth Saturdays, an intensive cleanliness drive would be organized. For this, the People's Movement for Clean Cities will be launched as advised by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

This clean cities movement will be launched with the active participation of self-help groups, residents associations, National Social Service groups, college and school students and the national green army. The cleanliness drive will be undertaken in 21 Corporations, 138 Municipalities and 490 Town Panchayats on every second and fourth Saturday.

To explain the need for cleanliness, meetings will be organized in road side parks with the participation of elected representatives and locally popular people. Through them bit notices will be distributed about cleanliness, the need for yellow bags will be explained and distributed to the public.

After the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the People Movement for Clean Cities and Cleanliness Drive near Mint flyover Park in Royapuram Division under Greater Chennai Corporation limits, under his leadership, students, Corporation employees and the General Public undertook an oath for the clean maintenance of the cities.

Planting of sapling, launching of drive

Later the Hon'ble Chief Minister planted a tree sapling to mark the inaugration of urban forest under the Mint flyover. Then the Hon'ble Chief Minister flagged off an Awareness march.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated an awareness campaign among the Corporation staff about segregation of biodegradable and non-biodegradable trash. The staff also carried placards stressing the need for maintaining a clean environment. The march led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and it went through various streets of Royapuram Division.

By way of inaugurating the Seaway Luxury Cruise tourist travel 'The Empress' introduced by Cordelia Cruises, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** presented a shield meant to the captain of the cruise Thiru.Devis Korop at the Chennai Port on 04.06.2022.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** visited the Seaway Luxury Cruise tourist travel 'The Empress' introduced by Cordelia Cruises on 04.06.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes Green awards for 2021

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** flagged off 25 electric vehicles at a cost of Rs.3.42 crore at the Secretariat on 04.06.2022 for the use of the staff of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board. He also presented, in connection with the World Environment Day, green awards to the District Collectors of Madurai, Villupuram and Tiruvannamalai for best contribution for environmental safety and Green Premier Awards with Rs. One lakh prize money to 5 industries, educational institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations.

Clean environment is essential for people to live a healthy and prosperous life. Organisations that protect the environment play an important role in rectifying the pollution of water, air and earth and in mitigating the impact of severe climatic changes. The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing many schemes in upgrading Nature's assets and in protecting the environment.

Green Awards to the District Collectors: By way of encouraging District Collectors who have performed best in protecting the district's environment in 2021, the Hon'ble Chief Minister presented the Green Award to Dr. S. Anish I.A.S., (Madurai), Thiru. D. Mohan I.A.S., (Villupuram) and to Thiru. B. Murugesh I.A.S., (Tiruvannamalai).

Green Premier Awards to Industries, Educational institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations : Out of the 79 different organizations that were selected for best performance in the prevention of pollution and protection of environment, Ranipet Tannery Effluent Treatment Co. (Ltd.), Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Perundurai, Sulochana Cotton Spinning Mills (P) Ltd., Tiruppur, Clean Coonoor, Nilgiris District and Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Porur were adjudged as the best for the Green Premier Award for the year 2021. The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented the awards and cheques for Rs. One lakh each.

Incentives to winners in Deaflympics 2022

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** at the Secretariat on 04.06.2022, handed over cheques totalling to Rs. 1.10 crore, as incentives to Selvi J.Jerlin Anika and Thiru. Prithvi Sekhar, who won medals at the 24th Summer Deaflympics Olympics 2022, for the hearing impaired held in Brazil.

The 24th Summer Deaflympics 2022 was held in Brazil from 01.05.2022 to 15.05.2022. In the sports meet, Selvi J.Jerlin Anika (Age 18), belonging to Tamil Nadu represented India and participated in the shuttle-cock events and struck gold in the singles, mixed doubles and group events, bagging 3 gold medals. The Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over a cheque for Rs. 75 lakh as an incentive to Selvi Jerlin Anika.

Selvi Jerlin Anika is a 12th Standard student of Avvai Corporation Higher Secondary School for Girls in Madurai. She had been given a scholarship of Rs. 10 lakh per annum by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu under the Mission International Medal Scheme.

In the men's Tennis event, Thiru. Prithvi Sekhar (Age 39), belonging to Chennai, representing India, won the Silver Medal in the Doubles event, and 2 Bronze Medals in the Singles and Mixed Doubles events. The Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over a cheque for Rs. 35 lakh as an incentive to Thiru. Prithvi Sekhar.

Foundation stone laid for projects costing Rs. 119.68 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes Rs.136.45 crore welfare aid to 59,162 beneficiaries at Sivagangai

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open 44 schemes, completed at a cost of Rs. 24.77 crore, laid foundation stones for 127 new schemes to be executed at a cost of Rs. 119.68 crore and distributed welfare measures worth Rs. 136.45 crore to 59,162 beneficiaries at a function in Karaiyur in Sivagangai District, on 08.06.2022.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *(English Translation)*

I am extremely happy to participate in a function in Sivagangai District, which is known for its bravery.

Sivaganga is known for freedom fighters such as Muthu Vaduganathar, Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar and her daughter Vellai Nachiyar, who fought bravely against the British. This Sivagangai Seemai has proved that it stands in the forefront of the freedom struggle. This land is known for people like the valiant warrior Marudhu, the great poet Kavignar Kannadasan and the spiritual leader Thavathiru Kundrakudi Adigalar. On this sacred soil, this function has been organized for distribution of various welfare measures.

My congratulations to Thiru. Periyakaruppan, belonging to the district, who always does things in a big way in keeping with his name. Whichever task is entrusted to him, one can be sure that he will execute it with meticulous efficiency. At the outset, I would like to congratulate all, including the District Collector and other Government officials, who supported him, for their involvement in making the function successful.

I am really happy to participate in this function after declaring open a 'Samathuvapuram in Kottai Vengaipatti village in Singampunari Union in Sivagangai District.

The Samathuvapuram Project is one of the dream projects of Dr. Kalaignar, who lives in our hearts forever.

Puratchi Kavignar Bharathidasan has sung about elimination of caste being the first priority followed by Tamil development.

The Dravidian Movement has been created on this foundation! Samathuvapuram scheme was started by Muthamizharignar Dr. Kalaignar to establish the principle of Thanthai Periyar and to implement the doctrines of Arignar Anna, besides establishing casteless and installing social justice. By declaring open the first Samathuvapuram

in 1997, Dr.Kalaignar opened more Samathuvapurams throughout the State and showed new light for social harmony.

In Sivagangai District alone there are 9 Samathuvapurams. Of the 9 Samathuvapurams, 8 were completed during the previous DMK regime and handed over to the beneficiaries. As told by Periyakaruppan, this Samathuvapuram should have come into existence at that time itself. About Rs. 207 lakh was allotted during 2010-2011 and the project was also ready. But due to the change of Government, it was not brought into use.

At this stage, the present DMK Government, sorry, our present Government, has completely renovated the project at a cost of Rs. 317 lakh and handed it over to the beneficiaries. This project itself is a standing example that shows how the previous Government ruined various projects just out of jealousy. Though it was completed, those in the previous regime did not hand it over to the beneficiaries. It was not a regime for people but one that acted with political motives.

In this new Samathuvapuram , 100 houses have been built on an area of more than 12 acres. Each house is 290 sq.ft and priced at Rs. 1.92 lakh. Drinking water, electricity facility, rain water harvesting, home vegetable gardens, herb garden and 2 coconut trees per house and toilet facilities have been provided in an area of 15 cents.

Drinking water facility has been provided at an estimated cost of Rs. 15.87 lakh; Arignar Anna Playground; children's playground and park. A bust of Periyar at the entrance of the Samathuvapuram. A fair price shop for supply of essential articles; electric lights on all streets. Rain water drains in all streets to prevent stagnation of rain water at a cost of Rs.54.29 lakh. Tar roads are provided throughout the colony. Besides an Anganwadi Centre and a library named after former Minister Madhavan. These facilities enable people to live in unity and communal amity. In these egalitarian Samathuvapurams, people live in unity sinking their caste and communal differences. They are an example to the country. It was the idea of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar that the entire country should become Samathuvapuram.

Along with the opening of Samathuvapuram, welfare measures are being distributed on behalf of various Departments: fifty-one projects completed at a cost of Rs. 63.35 crore on behalf of the Highways Department. On behalf of Rural and Panchayat Department 69 works completed with an estimate of Rs.42.48 crore; on behalf of Water Resources Department one project at a cost of Rs. 7 crore; on behalf of Highways Department, 1 scheme with Nabard assistance at a cost of Rs.4.95 crore; On behalf of Health and Family Welfare Department, 5 schemes at a cost of Rs. 1.90 crore; Totally foundation stones have been laid for 127 projects to be executed at a total cost of Rs.119.68 crore.

Similarly, the following works will be inaugurated for the benefit of people in the district.

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Power Generation and Distribution Corporation, 1 project at an estimated cost of Rs.5.82 crore;

On behalf of the Directorate of Town Panchayats, 3 projects with an estimate of Rs.5.30 crore;

On behalf of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, 22 projects with an estimate of Rs.3.06 crore;

On behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, 1 project at an estimate of Rs.3 crore;

On behalf of the Department of Agriculture, 1 project with an estimate of Rs.2 crore;

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO), 4 projects at an estimated cost of Rs.1.58 crore;

On behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department, 6 projects with an estimate of Rs.1.40 crore;

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Movement, 2 projects with an estimate of Rs.97 lakh;

On behalf of the Public Works Department (Building and Maintenance), 1 project at an estimate of Rs.88 lakh;

On behalf of the Co-operative Department, 2 projects at an estimate of Rs.45 lakh;

1 project on behalf of Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Federation (Aavin) at an estimate of Rs.30 lakh.

Thus, 44 works at a total cost of Rs.24.77 crore have been dedicated for public use through this function.

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu State Rural and Urban Livelihood Movement, 17,438 beneficiaries including community bank loans, community investment funds and personal loans have been disbursed to the tune of Rs 40.82 crore.

14,300 beneficiaries under the schemes of Individual Farm Ponds, Rural Housing Scheme;

7,665 beneficiaries including provision of medical kits under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme, Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam Scheme;

4,084 beneficiaries on behalf of the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare;

2,970 beneficiaries on behalf of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department;

2,550 beneficiaries on behalf of Labour Welfare Department;

2,357 beneficiaries on behalf of Animal Husbandry Department;

1,566 beneficiaries on behalf of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department;

1,486 beneficiaries on behalf of the Co-operative sector;

806 beneficiaries on behalf of the Department of Social Welfare and Women's Empowerment;

521 beneficiaries of the Vazhnthu Kattuvom scheme;

264 beneficiaries for higher education and bank loans on behalf of District Lead Bank;

238 beneficiaries on behalf of the Differently-abled Persons Welfare Department;

On behalf of the District Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, 229 beneficiaries, including stipend for Muslim and Christian girls and free sewing machines;

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, an affordable housing project with beneficiary participation;

Under the Beneficiaries Self-Building Scheme, 121 beneficiaries;

On behalf of Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, 75 roadside vendors,

Assistance Care Scheme by District Child Protection Unit,

53 beneficiaries including the Corona Relief Fund;

On behalf of TAHDCO, On behalf of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry,

Job creation scheme for unemployed youth under District Industrial Centre,

19 beneficiaries including Entrepreneurship Development Scheme;

11 beneficiaries, including education scholarship and marriage scholarship on behalf of Ex-Servicemen Welfare Department;

New electronic family cards to 1,359 beneficiaries on behalf of the Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department;

On behalf of the Department of Health and Family Welfare Department, 1,000 beneficiaries will receive the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Card and on behalf of the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment, appointment orders to 2 beneficiaries on compassionate grounds are handed over here.

I am extremely happy to provide welfare assistance worth Rs.136.45 crore to a total of 59,162 beneficiaries.

Apart from all these projects and welfare assistance, I would like to announce the following schemes for the benefit of the people of this district.

Renovation of the Shield Canal will be undertaken, at an estimated cost of Rs.22 crore, to benefit many villages in the Sivaganga circle. This will fill the canals in Melapoongudi, Salur, Cholapuram and Nalukottai Villages and benefit 1,800 acres of agricultural land.

Rs.12 crore for the Department of Maternity and Child Care at Sivagangai Government Medical College to provide more specialized maternity care to pregnant women in the district with an additional building of 100 beds.

The aim of the Government is that every paisa spent by the Government should reach the last person in society. Our slogan as laid down by Arignar Anna is, "Let's see God in the smile of the poor". We are implementing that slogan through our schemes.

If all these schemes are to be named collectively, it is 'Dravidian Model!'

Our Government will ensure that the benefits of Government schemes go to every citizen. The officials including the District Collector sitting here should monitor and confirm this daily.

You also know that after the establishment of the Kazhagam rule, I have been going to each and every district to initiate various welfare schemes, laying foundation stones and providing welfare assistance, which I have been doing regularly.

Whether it is starting new projects or providing various kinds of welfare assistance to the public, I have been making a habit of it.

In this way, I am going directly to each district and meeting people. Wherever I go, people stand on the roadsides to greet me. I consider it as proof of this Government's performance and my performance.

Today, there is a three-fold, four-fold enthusiasm among the people than at the time of the Assembly

elections. The main reason for this is being truthful to the people and providing honest governance to them.

Now I am meeting more people than I did during the election campaign. Being continuously in touch with the people is a must for rulers. Recently, the Hon'ble Vice President of India Thiru. Venkaiah Naidu who is also a seasoned Parliamentarian participated in a function to unveil the statue of Dr.Kalaignar. In his speech, he lauded Dr.Kalaignar's rule in the State. He also mentioned that the present Chief Minister is following his footsteps. I consider this to be the greatest compliment I could have received in my life.

I consider it the greatest privilege to receive compliments from the Vice President, who has known the Chief Ministers of various states. I did not say that I filled the void created by the absence of Dr.Kalaignar. No one can fill his place. But my performance over the previous year has gone to prove that I can act like him. I don't care about being ranked as number 1 or number 2 Chief Minister. But my aim is to make Tamil Nadu the number 1 state. That is my ideal. I am proud to say that the Vice President's commendation reflected that.

"I have worked as much as I can for the Tamil community. If you ask who will come after me, it will be Thambi Stalin", Dr.Kalaignar once said. I have preserved this hope by my performance in the last one year. I shall continue to serve in the same manner in the coming period. I have no doubt about it.

We have done in this one year what should have been done in five years. You might think that this is some early stage speed and will not continue for a long time. I will always work with the same vigour and the same speed. It is the love and affection of people that makes me work with such vigour and swiftness. Tamil Nadu will progress in all ways only with the love and warmth shown by everyone.

This Tamil is a race with an encompassing culture of love that says 'Yaadhum Oore Yaavarum Kelir'. The excavations in the District have shown that the Tamil Nation is more than 3,000 years old.

This Government has restored the antiquity of Tamil and through it the past glory of Tamils. Let's talk about the ancient glories of Tamils. We will not stop talking about it. Yet we will make the people of today excel in all ways. That is the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Government.

Our service to the Tamil Language, the Tamil Race and to Tamil Nadu will continue.

I would like to convey the assurance that all these three together will lead to a prosperous life and a prosperous Tamil Nadu not only in the present but also in the future.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated 12 godowns, an office building and a guest room constructed at a cost of Rs. 35.82 crore on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and Tamil Nadu Warehousing Corporation which work under the Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, at the Secretariat, on 13.05.2022.

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inspected the office of the Tiruchirappalli Corporation on 30.05.2022 and received petitions from the public.

Satphones to enable better communication for officials at Mullai Periyar Dam, camps

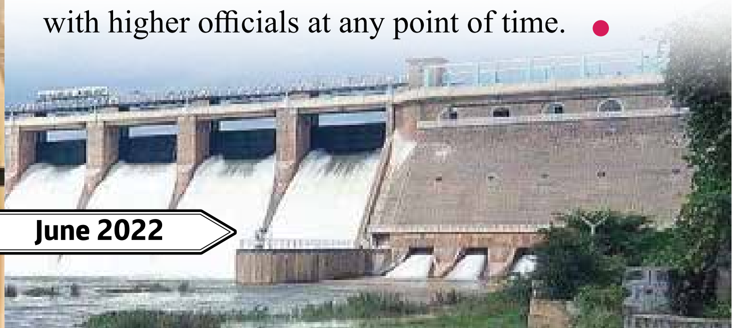
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**, at the Secretariat on 04.06.2022, handed over 6 satellite phones, costing totally Rs. 9.50 lakh on behalf of the Water Resources Department, to the Chief Engineer, Superintending Engineer and Executive Engineer attached to the Periyar Dam and, for the use of Periyar Dam and Thekkady Dam camp employees.

The Mullai Periyar Dam, belonging to Government of Tamil Nadu, is situated in the midst of Periyar Tiger Sanctuary in Idukki District, Kerala State. There is no landline telephone facility in this area. In addition, during floods and monsoon seasons, it is hard to get signal for cell phones. Due to this, it is difficult to get in touch with officials to know about the Dam's storage, water inflow and outflow and rainfall details by higher officials, District Collectorate and office of the Disaster Management and take proper decisions.

In addition, one has to travel 14 kms in boat in dense forest areas where it is difficult to get signal by cell phones. For security reasons, communication is very essential.

When the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources and the Additional Chief Secretary for Water Resources visited the Mullai Periyar Dam on 05.11.2021 and enquired about flood management, these difficulties were explained to them. To overcome these difficulties, it has been decided to sanction Satellite phones to them.

Through these satellite phones, it is possible to get service in areas without cell phone tower coverage in dense forest areas. Due to this, when the officials travel in boats to Mullai Periyar Dam they can get in touch with higher officials at any point of time.



Hon'ble Chief Minister inspects works for Kalaignar Memorial Library at Madurai

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inspected the construction works of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar Memorial Library, being carried out at Pudunatham Salai, Madurai District at a cost of Rs. 99 crore on a 2,13,288 sq. ft. area, on 07.06.2022

By way of honouring Muthamizharignar Kalaignar who had implemented countless schemes for the welfare of the people in his rule of Tamil Nadu five times, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced on 03.06.2021, the birth anniversary of Kalaignar, that a memorial library in the name of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar would be set up at Madurai where Tamil flourished from the Sangam Age.

Accordingly it was decided to construct a library with six floors inclusive of the ground floor with a plinth area of 2,13,288 sq.ft. at Pudunatham Salai, Madurai District. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the construction works on 11.01.2022. The works are being carried out fast with the intention of completing them cent percent in 12 months for dedication to the people.

The basement is for parking two wheelers and four wheelers of the visitors and for the installation of a generator. The ground floor is planned to facilitate differently-abled persons to read, with necessary books and seats and an auditorium with a seating capacity for 250 persons; in the first floor a children's library and facilities for visitors to read dailies, weekly and monthly magazines; the second floor to house the books of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar by way of honouring him-his poems, essays, political, literary and historical works and those connected with the film world, a Kalaignar Research Centre with 4,000 research books on him and a section with 30,000 books, to cater to the requirements of those studying for competitive examinations;

The 3rd floor will be devoted to Tamil Literature with 63,000 books, the 4th floor to English books, the 5th floor for preserving rare books including the Five Great Epics and 'Pathinenkeezhkanakku' and the 6th floor for the use of visually handicapped persons.

Also, steps are taken to install in this library complex, a statue of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. The library will have various modern facilities like touch screen, generator, escalator to all the 6 floors and air condition facility. Also, a terrace garden with facilities for reading books and an auditorium are also being set up.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister directed officials to take steps to carry out the construction works speedily, qualitatively and within the stipulated time for the use of the people.

Manifold measures for development of Pudukkottai District

Hon’ble Chief Minister declares aim of inclusive governance for those on the fringes of society

At a Government function at Pudukkottai on 08.06.2022, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** dedicated 140 completed works executed at a cost of Rs. 81.31 crore, laid the foundation for 1,399 new scheme works valued at Rs.166.84 crore and distributed Government welfare assistance worth Rs. 370 crore to 48,868 beneficiaries.

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister at the function *(English Translation)*

I have come to Pudukkottai. After issuing orders for the schemes framed at Fort St. George, Chennai, I have come to the ‘New’ Fort (‘Pudu’ Kottai) for implementing them.

Once this Pudukkottai was a part of Tiruchi District. Our Muthamizharignar Kalaignar carved it out of Tiruchi District in 1974 and made Pudukkottai a separate District. The Pudukkottai palace was purchased, converted as the office of the District Collector and Thalaivar Kalaignar named it Rajagopala Thondaiman Maaligai.

The secular progressive front has captured today 5 of the 6 constituencies in Pudukkottai and has converted the District as this Government’s fort.

I have come here as the Chief Minister of a Government that is ready to toil and implement various welfare schemes for the people of this entire District, why to the people of all the 234 constituencies of the state.

Any Fort is bound to become an old fort one day. But this Pudukkottai will ever be a new fort.

Ministers Thiru. Regupathy and Thiru. Meyyanathan arranged this function with great zeal with the co-operation of the District Collector and enthusiastic Government officers, staff and people’s representatives.

Initially, I had my own hesitations about Thiru. Meyyanathan over his would be performance in the Legislature. But, wherever he may be, whether in the Opposition benches as he was in his debut-entry to the Legislature or as a new face in the Cabinet now, he presented himself as a seasoned Minister – as a second-time Minister – as demonstrated by his reply to the debate on grants for his ministry. He spoke so beautifully.

The Environment Department is somewhat of a technical Department. In today’s world, it is also an important one. Even in that sector, he is showing special interest and honing himself for

the job. Not only that….Tamil Nadu is carving out many achievements in the sports field, thanks to his enthusiasm.

Minister Regupathy does not need my introduction for you to know about him. His contribution in passing various laws, in skillfully handling Government cases and establishing the state's rights, is essential.

I wish to thank this Pudukkottai District for providing good Ministers.

As this District was a favourite District of Thalaivar Kalaignar, he created a new bus stand, a women's college, SIPCOT industrial estate, SIDCO industrial estate, Kudumiyanmalai Anna Farm, Cauvery Combined Water Supply Scheme, underground sewerage for Pudukkottai town and new building facilities for Government Hospital and Queen's Hospital.

He relieved the Pudukkottai Municipality from a debt of Rs. 50 crore towards water tax. Like these, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar implemented many schemes for Pudukkottai.

Such have been the achievements of DMK in fashioning a new Pudukkottai. You know the benefits derived by the whole of Tamil Nadu in the last one year.

It is my duty to remind you of the benefits derived by the Pudukkottai District and the people of this District.

- Of the 7,463 petitions received under the scheme Chief Minister in your Constituency, solutions were found for 3,614 petitions.
- Two lakh women are travelling free in buses.
- Co-operative jewel loans received by 170 persons were waived.
- Rs. 4,000 each have been given to 4,68,519 family card holders.
- 4,72,109 persons have received a package of 14 types of essential grocery articles each.
- Pongal package has been given to 4,82,187 rice card holders.
- Pongal package has been given to 968 Sri Lankan Tamils residing in camps.
- 51,960 tablets have been distributed to boost immunity against Corona.
- The number of persons who have received the first dose vaccination is 12,69,499; second dose recipients - 11,35,783.
- Rs.85.80 lakh has been given as incentive to 1,716 Police Personnel Rs. 5,000 each.
- 110 children who lost their parents because of Corona, have received Rs. 3 lakh each.
- Rs. 3.16 lakh has been given as incentive to 316 Poojaris serving in 316 many temples (Rs.1,000 incentive).
- Rs. 1.62 crore has been allotted for 81 temples in this District for renovation.
- Old-age pension amounting to Rs. 1.50 crore has been given to 1,254 persons in the past one year.
- Likewise Rs.1.07 crore has been distributed to 895 orphaned differently-abled persons and Rs.6.12 lakh to 51 women, deserted by their husbands.
- Rs. 1.01 crore has been distributed as assistance to 844 widows.
- Rs. 11.64 lakh has been distributed as old age assistance to 97 persons under the Uzhavar Pathukappu Thittam.

- Rs. 37.97 crore has been distributed as gratuity to 963 persons residing in Sri Lankan Tamil Rehabilitation Camps.

Like this, several thousand people have been benefited through different schemes.

In that sequence, I am inaugurating a few more important schemes today.

- I have inaugurated 140 scheme works completed at an estimate of Rs. 81.31 crore.

- 34 completed works – Rs. 10.37 crore (Rural Development Department);
- 12 works – Rs. 3 crore (Municipal Administration Department);
- Fair Price shop building at North Street, Karambakudi Town Panchayat;
- 26 works – Health Department;
- Veterinary Hospital building at Gandharvakottai;
- Music School building at Pudukkottai;
- Basic facilities to Arulmigu Muthumariamman temple;
- Science laboratories and computer rooms to schools;
- Land surveyor office at Aranthangi;
- Annai Sathya Memorial Children Orphanage Scheme at Pudukkottai;
- Anganwadi centres;
- Fish drying platform at Kottaipattinam;
- Primary agricultural Co-operative Credit Society buildings;
- Synthetic Tennis court at Pudukkottai;
- Hostels in Industrial Training Institute camps in Pudukkottai;
- New building for Siddha Medicine at Andakulam;
- Auxiliary agriculture extension centre building at Brahmanavayal;
- Class-rooms at the Government arts college, Karambakudi;
- Apartments at Ilupur and Edayapatti.
- Millet sales centres at 15 places.

Totally, 140 works completed at a cost of Rs. 81.31 crore have been declared open in this function.

- I have laid the foundation stone today for 1,399 new scheme works to be executed at a cost of Rs. 166.84 crore.
- A special building for visitors in the first floor Pudukkottai Government medical college hospital complex;
- High voltage conical lights at 14 places in Pudukkottai City;
- Bitumen roads in various Town Panchayats;
- 1,324 small and big scheme works in Rural Panchayats at a cost of Rs. 85.77 crore;

- Setting up a new power sub-station at Vamban Village;
- Auxiliary health centres;
- Setting up new Anganwadi centres;
- A veterinary dispensary at Pillaithanneer Pandal;
- Agriculture Extension Centre at Adhanakottai and Peranur;
- Two new Government arts and science colleges at Thulaiyanur and Keezhathur;
- A high-level bridge across Kodiyaru;
- A boat house in Muthukuda Beach.

All these schemes will benefit people. To benefit individuals, welfare assistance to the tune of Rs. 370 crore is to be distributed to 48,868 persons.

- Besides dedicating 140 completed scheme works valued at Rs. 81.31 crore, I announced the following schemes for the benefit of the people of this District.

The Thirumayam Taluk Hospital will be upgraded with facilities like additional beds and modern operation theatres at a cost of Rs. 10 crore.

In deference to the long-standing demands of the fishermen of Kottaipattinam and Jegathapattinam, the fish-landing basin at these two places will be upgraded each at a cost of Rs. 15 crore. Further, survey works will be undertaken for the setting up of a new fishing harbour at Jegathapattinam.

In sum, our Government of Tamil Nadu turns out to be a Government that identifies the needs of the state, each District and each individual and implements them.

Our Muthamizharignar Thalaivar Kalaignar developed Tamil Nadu in education, job opportunities, industries and in infrastructure. Over and above all these, he was concerned about the life of the common man. I wish to joyfully inform you that this Government, created by you, is also working on that basis.

- I wish the accomplishment of this Government should be in the uplift of the living standards of the number of poor and marginalized people's living standards.
- I wish the Government machinery should be easily accessible to the poor and marginalized people to present their demands.
- I consider the level of upgradation of the social life of the backward, most backward and scheduled castes and tribes should be the index for measuring achievement.
- Also, I want this Government to function as a Government for communities like Irular, Narikuravars and for those in the extreme fringes of society.

- I wish this Government should be the voice of the voiceless people like the differently-abled persons and transgenders.
- We feel that all the needs of such people should be periodically identified and implemented after deep thinking.

When we say growth, we do not mean mere development. We mean change, excellence and heartfelt exuberance with a psychological significance.

Setting up an industry is growth; our definition of growth includes the benefits that flow out of the establishment of that industry in the surrounding areas, the job opportunities, the rise in the standard of living of the people there through it and the change that takes place in the society.

How many women get employment through the setting up of a big industry? How many welfare schemes have been implemented for the differently-abled persons?

This is what we are saying majestically and proudly about the 'Dravidian Model' governance. This is the inner meaning.

Fulfilling the needs of the marginalized people is the Dravidian Model.

The DMK jumped into the electoral fray as it realized that capturing power is necessary to do good to the people. People are important to us, not these posts. There are some who belittle schemes that are brought in as tricks to capture votes. There are people in this country to accuse and criticize that we are implementing all these schemes with votes in mind. I ask them: Do Irulars, Kuravars or the differently-abled persons have large vote banks? Do they have vote banks at all?

You have to understand that the DMK Government is helping and serving such people without vote banks. The DMK's aim, thought and action are all for the welfare of the people, the common man, the oppressed man.

The Government that rules from the Fort today is the Government of those for whom Thanthai Periyar toiled till his last breath, carrying the urine pot and instilling rationalism, to whom Perarignar Anna taught politics narrating world politics and instilling Tamil sentiments and for whom our Tamil race leader Kalaignar, dedicating himself to social justice and equality, toiled declaring "in the language of Periyar who shaped us all – this Government is not even a third rate Government; it is a fourth rate Government as we belong to the fourth category; so a fourth rate Government rules in the country. I am very happy and proud to declare with haughtiness, a sense of greatness and arrogance and in the names of Periyar and Perumaganar Perarignar Anna that this Government will toil for the welfare of the fourth category people".

Many MLAs and MPs pointed out here some issues in their constituencies, interspersing their speech with expressions of happiness and gratitude for carrying out to an extent the assurances already made. I don't refute the existence of some problems. Some demands will be there. Thiru. Thirunavukkarasar, MP spoke about his agreement with the remarks of another person. Don't worry. Demands placed, not only here but in the Assembly or in public forums, we will certainly take steps on them realizing the truth and doing justice in their connection. Conveying this hope and assurance, I once again thank you for giving me this opportunity to meet you and speak to you.

Hon'ble Chief Minister declares open Samathuvapuram envisaged by Dr. Kalaignar

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin**, on 08.06.2022, declared open a Samathuvapuram with 100 houses, constructed at a cost of Rs.3.17 crore at Kottai Vengaipatti under Kannamangalam Panchayat Union in Singampunari Division in Sivagangai District and also inaugurated the statue of Thanthai Periyar at the Samathuvapuram.

It was Dr.Kalaignar, who conceived the idea of Samathuvapuram and named it after Thanthai Periyar, for people of all communities and castes to live together.

During Muthamizharignar Kalaignar's period, 9 Samathuvapurams were constructed and of them 8 had been handed over to the beneficiaries. The 9th Samathuvapuram at Kottai Vengaipatti was completed in the year 2010-2011 and it was about to be opened. But due to a change of rule in the State, the inauguration of Samathuvapuram was indefinitely postponed. This Samathuvapuram was set up on a 12.253 acre of land. There are 100 houses in the Samathuvapuram and each house is valued at Rs. 1.92 lakh. At the entrance of the colony, a bust size statue of Thanthai Periyar at a cost of Rs.2.25 lakh was opened by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, who also handed over the keys of the houses to the beneficiaries and interacted with them.

In this colony, individual drinking water pipe connection has been provided to each house, at a total cost of Rs. 15.87 lakh and overhead tank and other drinking water facilities have been provided at a cost of Rs.2.92 lakh.

Anna Playground at a cost of Rs. 1.01 lakh with all infrastructure, including handball and Kabaddi grounds and Kalaignar Children's Park at a cost of Rs. 5.25 lakh have been set up.

Further, the streets have been provided with street lights at a cost of Rs. 4.80 lakh, drainage facilities in all the streets at a cost of Rs. 96.39 lakh and tarred roads at a cost of Rs. 54.29 lakh.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open a fair price shop, constructed at a cost of Rs. 4.38 lakh, and an Anganwadi Centre and a library building, built at a cost of Rs. 8.09 lakh.

Hon'ble Chief Minister launches logo, mascot for 44th Chess Olympiad to be held at Mamallapuram

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, at the Ripon building complex of Greater Chennai Corporation on 09.06.2022, launched the official logo and mascot of the 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad to be held at Mamallapuram.

This is the first time that the Chess Olympiad is being organized in Chennai. The Olympiad is to be held at Mamallapuram from July 28 to August 10, in which more than 2,000 players from 186 countries will participate.

For conducting the event in Tamil Nadu, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Tamil Nadu and the All-India Chess Federation in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the Secretariat on 14.05.2022.

The Managing Director of the National Health Mission has been appointed as the Special Officer to co-ordinate various activities of the tournament. Under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, a high-level committee comprising of Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, IAS officers and members of the FIDE has been appointed to supervise the various arrangements of the tournament.

A torch relay for the 44th Chess Olympiad is being taken all over the country. To create awareness about the Chess Olympiad among students, chess tournaments are to be held in all schools and colleges in the State. In places where people gather in large numbers, like bus-stands and railway stations, advertisements will be displayed to create awareness among the people about the Chess Olympiad.

In continuation of this, at the decorated Ripon Building with coloured lights, the Hon'ble Chief Minister released the mascot (Thambi) and the logo of the 44th Chess Olympiad. The word Thambi means younger brother in Tamil, and the mascot shows a knight in the traditional Tamil attire of a veshti (dhoti) and shirt, and with folded hands signifying welcome.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open the 50 Days Countdown of the tournament for the benefit of the public. He also released the hashtag of the tournament (#ChessChennai2022), which was received by the Chairman of the All-India Chess Federation, Dr.Sanjay Kapoor.

Chengalpattu District

Chief Secretary reviews works under KUDP in Tambaram Corporation limits

The Chief Secretary, Dr.V.Irai Anbu, I.A.S., reviewed on 05.06.2022, the progress of various developmental works being carried out through the Kalaignar Urban Development Programme (KUDP) in the Tambaram Corporation limits in Chengalpattu District.

The Chief Secretary inspected the underground drainage works in Anakaputhur and Pammal areas. On banks of the Adyar in Anakaputhur, under the tree planting programme, he planted a tree sapling.

At Pammal, the Chief Secretary inspected the construction work of the new daily market, being carried out at a cost of Rs. 1.27 crore and reviewed the progress of renovation of Thiruppanandal Lake and the closed drainage work at G.D.Naidu Street in Chitlapakkam Road, at a cost of Rs. 99.50 lakh. All these works are being carried out under KUDP in Pammal area.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the bio-fertilizer making unit in Tambaram Corporation where segregation of garbage is carried out for bio-fertilizer and the construction of bio-gas cremation at Selaiyur Burial Ground, at a cost of Rs.1.50 crore. The Chief Secretary instructed the officials to complete the ongoing developmental works without any slackness and to bring them for the use of the public at the earliest.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu Dr. V. Irai Anbu, I.A.S., presided over the review meeting with the Secretaries and Heads of the concerned Departments regarding the preparation works to be done for the celebration of the "Tamil Nadu Day" on July 18, at the Secretariat on 10.06.2022

The eradication of child labour oath was administered by the Director of Information and Public Relations Dr. V.P. Jeyaseelan, I.A.S., and was taken by the officers and employees of the Department, at the Secretariat on 10.06.2022.

Three Hundred Rupees

- A short story by **Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi**

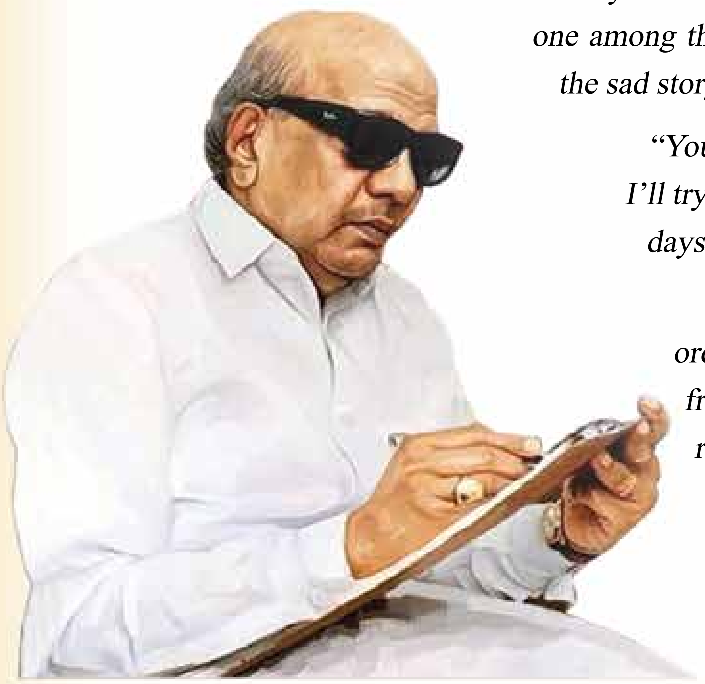
"My mother is blind... My father is crippled. For the past year he has been suffering from paralysis. And I had an elder sister... She was a widow. She died leaving her child with us.

I am the pillar of my family. I work in a pawnshop for just Rs.10 a month. I have lost that job too. Even when I had that job I could eat only once a day. And now...? Help me out, please, lest I hang myself," so said that poor young man in tears. His name is Lakshmi Narayanan. But he suffered like Daridra Narayanan.

He sought a job not in a big office or with a mill owner, but the help of a school teacher whose monthly salary was Rs. 150. Thangappan taught mathematics in a high school. When he himself was struggling to make ends meet, how could he even think of supporting Lakshmi Narayanan!. Quite soft at heart, he wished to bring a dramatic change in society. And amidst his circle of friends he was known as Karl Marx. His very presence on the stage was enough to inspire people. He was such an excellent speaker. Since his speeches were peppered with words like 'poor', 'downtrodden', 'sympathy' and 'pity', several people, with the intention of finding out how true he was to his words, made bold to seek financial help from him. Thangappan magnanimously spent a major share of his salary for the welfare of such people. Lakshmi Narayanan was one among the beneficiaries. Thangappan was greatly upset by the sad story of Lakshmi Narayanan.

"You have food in my house for ten days. Meanwhile, I'll try to find a job for you," he promised. Seven to eight days rolled by. But no job was found.

One day, Thangappan received Rs. 300 by money order from a friend who had borrowed that amount from him some six months ago. Exhilarated by the return of his money, he forgot to keep it safe in his trunk box and left it on the table before he went to school. When he was in the classroom teaching, the thought of his money flashed across his mind. A sudden suspicion arose in his mind about



Lakshmi Narayanan. He completed the lesson as early as he could and started for home. He was not himself on his way. "He might be good... But the lure of a huge amount?!" His thoughts centred only on his money. He reached home. Lakshmi Narayanan was not found at the entrance of the house. He walked in. The money too was missing. He smiled a careless smile and walked back to school.

Lakshmi Narayanan got into a train on the same day afternoon at Salem railway station and reached Erode. Once at Erode he entered a readymade shop and came out dressed differently. He was speaking to himself: "A pawn shop with three hundred rupees. I'll be the boss." He went on repeating the words.

In the market, a dirty boy, lean and haggard, called him 'Sir.'

The moment Lakshmi Narayanan's eyes fell on the boy, he was carried away by his own thoughts. "Hi! Boy! Would you like to go with me? Do you feel confident that you can manage my pawn shop?" he asked.

The boy nodded his head in glee. He asked the boy to accompany him. He had automatically gained the gait of a boss. The two got into a train with a ticket and a half. The poor boy was all teeth. Lakshmi Narayanan sat majestically in the train smoking a Players brand cigarette. The train scuttled along towards Trichy.

The inauguration ceremony of the pawn shop took place with fun and fanfare. Lakshmi Narayanan's status went up as a boss. And that servant boy, oh! What an active fellow he was! The pawn shop flourished. It is considered to be the best such shop in Trichy.

When the train pulled up at Trichy at about four in the morning, Lakshmi Narayanan opened his eyes. He looked for the boy. The boy was missing. He looked into the bag. There was no money. He heaved a sigh. It looked as though Thangappan himself stood before him with a mischievous smile on his face. Thank God! He had at least the ticket to go out of the station.

Water resources for Chennai's needs

Red Hills Lake

Red Hills Lake is a tail-end lake of Kosasthalaiyar. For drinking water purposes of Chennai residents and for irrigation, a dam was constructed in the year 1882 across Kosasthalaiyar to carry water to the Cholavaram Lake through the Upper Canal and from there to the Red Hills Lake through the Lower Canal.

This canal was the smallest with a carrying capacity of 500 million cubic feet. In the year 1875-1876, the capacity was increased to 700 million cubic feet and the height to 15 feet for improving the drinking water supply and for increasing irrigation facilities.

The lake was then designed to provide drinking water to a population of 5,000. The irrigation license was taken over by the Government on June 13, 1962. The height of the Dam was then raised by 2 feet with an additional capacity of 453 million cubic feet during 1969-1972.

The overflows from the Pammadukulam and Pothur lakes also reach the Red Hills Lake. In addition, Krishna Water from Andhra Pradesh also reaches Red Hills Lake through Baby Canal via., Cholavaram Lake.

To meet the requirements of the Krishna Drinking Water Scheme, the capacity of Red Hills Lake was increased to 3,300 million cubic feet and the banks were raised to a height of 21.20 feet. From this lake, water is taken to Kilpauk Treatment Plant through underground pipes for treatment and from there drinking water is supplied to the residents in Chennai. The lake is designed to hold 21.20 feet during the rainy season. Drainage canals have been set up to divert surplus water to Ennore Estuary via Sadayankuppam and Manali.

Cholavaram Lake

The Cholavaram Lake was established with low capacity before 1871. When Tamaraipakkam Reservoir was set up, the water level was raised to 60.12 feet as a part of the Reservoir. After that, the level was raised to 60.50 feet. Cholavaram Lake serves as a balance lake for the Red Hills Lake and the Tamaraipakkam Dam. In 1962, the irrigation facility was taken over by the Government for the drinking water purposes. Water is taken from Tamaraipakkam Dam across Kosasthalaiyar to Cholavaram Reservoir

through the Upper Canal and from the Cholavaram Reservoir to the Red Hills Lake through the Lower canal. The capacity of Cholavaram Lake is 881 million cubic feet. Drains have been set up to carry the surplus water from the lake.

Chembarambakkam Lake

This is one of the biggest lakes in Tamil Nadu. It is located in the south of Chennai-Bengaluru Highway. This was formed as a small lake about 400 years ago during the Pallava period. The overflow from the Sriperumbudur Lake, the last drainage of the Palaru Dam, is taken to this lake through the Choudhury Canal. In addition, water is supplied from the Korattur Dam, built across Cooum River through New Bangaru Canal. The excess water from the reservoir reaches Adyar near Thiruneermalai and flows into Bay of Bengal through the Adyar Estuary.

As this lake is the most important lake for the city, it has been strengthened to bring Krishna Water from Poondi Reservoir. The lake is the second last lake supplying drinking water to Chennai residents. Its total capacity is 3,120 million cubic feet. The full capacity of the lake has been raised by 2 feet as per the Krishna Drinking water Supply scheme. Due to this about 7,226 acres of land are irrigated. The lake is also used for drinking water supply to the city without affecting irrigation.

In addition, a drawing tower has been established to draw 675 million litres of water per day. Arrangements have been made to draw 600 million litres of water per day for Chennai's drinking water needs and 75 million litres of water per day for SIPCOT Industrial units.

Poondi Reservoir (Sathyamurthi Sagar)

Construction work on the Poondi Reservoir across the Kosasthalaiyar near Poondi in Tiruvallur District was started in 1940 and completed in 1944. It is known as the Poondi Sathyamurthi Sagar. The estimated cost of the project was Rs. 65 lakh and was funded by the Chennai Corporation. It was constructed mainly to supply drinking water to Chennai. The Reservoir is located 57 km from Chennai and 12 km from Tiruvallur.

Prior to 1996, the capacity of Poondi Reservoir was only 2,521 million cubic feet. As the capacity was less than the drinking water requirement of Chennai, it was increased under the Krishna Drinking water Supply scheme by raising the full water level by 2 feet. The banks of the reservoir were raised and strengthened to raise the capacity to 3,231 million cubic feet.

Under the Krishna Drinking water supply scheme, 15 tmc of water per annum will be provided to the increasing demand for drinking water in Chennai City. To facilitate this, the levels at Chembarambakkam and Puzhal lakes were raised along with that of Poondi Reservoir.

Apart from this, there is a connecting canal to carry water to Chembarambakkam Lake and from there a 31 km canal to carry water to Puzhal Lake. The Reservoir and its associated structures are under the control of Kosasthalaiyar Drainage Division under the Water Resources Ministry.

New Veeranam Project

Veeranam Lake is one of the biggest lakes in the State and was constructed by Paranthaga Chola in 900 AD. It was located at Kattumannar Kovil in Cuddalore District and 25 kms from Chidambaram. Its total area is about 44,856 acres, capacity is 1,465 million cubic feet and catchment area 423 sq.km.

Veeranam Lake gets irrigation water from the Lower Dam through Vadavaru. About 11,178 acres are directly irrigated through 24 canals in Vadavaru.

After that Vadavaru River joins Veeranam Lake. From Veeranam Lake about 44,856 acres of land is directly irrigated through 34 canals.

The Sethiathoppu Dam Irrigates about 44,000 acres of land from the Vellar River basin to the catchment area. To meet the drinking water requirement of Chennai residents, surplus water from Veeranam Lake is being taken to Chennai.

Kannankottai- Thervoy Kandikai Reservoir

This reservoir is the fifth reservoir with four existing reservoirs namely Poondi, Puzhal, Cholavaram and Chembarambakkam. It was constructed at a cost of Rs. 380 crore. Five new sluices have been set up in the reservoir to increase the irrigation of existing 700 acres wet lands under Thervoy Kandigai, Kannankottai, and Rajeswari lakes. A tower has been set up to supply 66 million liters of water per day for Chennai's drinking water needs.

The project involves the construction of a new canal 8,600 metres long to carry Krishna water to the reservoir.

The reservoir aims to store one TMC 1,000 million cubic feet of water per year by filling 500 million cubic feet of water twice a year in an area of over 1,100 acres. This reservoir serves as a tourist and recreational centre for people in the surrounding areas. In addition, Miyawaki Forests are being developed by planting over 10,000 plants in the area. There is a possibility of increasing fisheries in the reservoir.

The reservoir improves the ground water table in surrounding villages. During the 2021 North-East Monsoon rains, about 138 million cubic feet of water was stored in the reservoir. At present, Chennai City requires about 1 tmc of water per month and through the 4 reservoirs, the present supply of 11 tmc of water has been increased to 11.75 tmc.

Kattur Thathamanji Reservoir

Chennai requires more than 1 tmc of water per month for its drinking water needs. So it is necessary to have one more reservoir. For this purpose a new sixth reservoir is being constructed near Minjur in Ponneri Circle in Tiruvallur District by linking the Kattur and Thathamanji lakes. The reservoir is funded by NABARD to the tune of Rs. 62.36 crore. A wall to prevent intrusion of sea water and 15 artificial ground aquifers are being set up. These works are expected to be completed before July 2022.

Krishna Drinking water supply scheme

As a permanent solution to the drinking water needs of Chennai City, an agreement was signed on 14.04.1976 between the Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh Governments in which it was agreed that the above states will each supply 5 tmc of water and the water will be taken through Andhra Pradesh. In this connection, a dialogue was held between the Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh Chief Ministers. As a result of the talks, an agreement was signed between the two states on 18.04.1983. Under the agreement, for the drinking water requirements of Chennai City, apart from 3 tmc of water for evaporation, 12 tmc of water will be supplied annually by Andhra Pradesh Government in the following manner.

4 tmc from January to April;

8 tmc from July to October; and

3 tmc to offset evaporation.

Totally 15 tmc of water is to be received from Srisailam.

In 1983, this scheme came into effect in two states in September 1996 river Krishna water was received in Chennai. From 1996 till 28.01.2022, about 101.991 tmc of water has been received. Through this, Chennai's Drinking water requirement is met.

-Water Resources Department

An Indian patriot and Tamil lover

" I recollect on his birth anniversary, the services of 'Kanniyath Thendral' Quaid-e-Millath, to Tamils and the minorities in the country, who was like a lighthouse to them in espousing the causes of opposition to Hindi imposition, making Tamil the official language of the country, establishing communal harmony and advancing the education of the minorities "

– Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** (in Social Media)

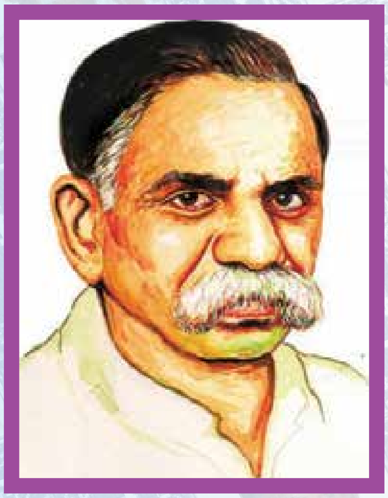
In India, Quaid-e-Millath is remembered along with Thanthai Periyar and Arignar Anna for guiding all the States, especially and particularly Tamil Nadu, in maintaining communal amity by raising a wall against communal differences and in preventing communal clashes. He is known for his tolerance and simplicity. He is the embodiment of all good qualities.

The only solace for me is that I also lived during his lifetime, moved closely with him and interacted with him frequently.

Quaid-e-Millath was a great patriot. There are some people who subject him to mockery like chameleons that look up at the sun to ridicule it. They know not what would happen were they to move nearer to the Sun! But we know. It is unfortunate that there are some people who continue to question his patriotism even after his death. We are pained at this. His speech in Parliament is a standing example of his patriotism. During the Indo-Pakistan war, he said in Parliament that he was ready to send his son to the war-front to fight for India. This statement of Quaid -e-Millath is sufficient proof of his patriotism.

Apart from being a true patriot and son of the nation, he was a great lover of the Tamil language. He was candid in saying that Tamil should be made the National language of the country, when there was a discussion in the Constituent Assembly about a national language. He said that Tamil alone is fit to be the national language as it is rich in literature and has a great history.

Speech by
Muthamizharignar Dr. **Kalaignar**
on the 95th birth anniversary
of Quaid-e- Millath
after paying homage to the leader



June 26: Birth anniversary of Ma.Po.Si

Great patriot and Tamil savant

M.P. Sivagnanam, popularly known as Ma.Po.Si, was born in Salavankuppam in Thousand Lights in Chennai to the couple Ponnusami and Sivakami. Ma.Po.Si. was a great freedom fighter and a Tamil scholar. Due to his mastery over Silappathikaram, he was known as Silambu Selvar.

The financial position of Ma.Po.Si's family did not allow him to continue his studies and he was a third standard drop out. To support his family, he served as a daily wager for some time and later as a weaver. He worked as a compositor in a printing press.

During the freedom struggle, he was imprisoned for over 700 days and he utilized this opportunity to study the Silappathikaram. In 1945 he started a Tamil journal called 'Tamil Murasu'.

He fought relentlessly for changing the name of Madras State as 'Tamil Nadu' and succeeded in his objective. During the formation of linguistic states, he vowed to save the capital Madras for Tamils at any cost. Though he could not succeed in merging Tirupati with Tamil Nadu, it was due to his struggle that Tiruttani was retained with Tamil Nadu. Similarly, Kanniyakumari and Senkottai were also included in Tamil Nadu.

He was elected to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from the T.Nagar Assembly Constituency in 1967 Assembly Election. Later, he was the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council. He died at the age of 89 on October 3, 1995.

June 24: Birth anniversary of Kaviarasu Kannadasan

Prolific poet and incomparable lyricist

Kaviarasu Kannadasan was born on 24.06.1927 at Sirukudalpatti near Tirupattur in Sivagangai District to the couple Sathappan and Visalakshi. He was influenced greatly by the Kamba Ramayanam and Bharathiyar's poetry. He went on to write over 4,000 poems, 5,000 film lyrics, and many short stories, novels and articles. He showed his religious catholicity by writing the 'Yesu Kaaviyam'.

He was also the editor of Thirumagal, Thirai Oli, Medhavi, Chandamarutham, Thendral and Kannadasan. His 'Aattanathi Aadhimandhi' was included in Tamil textbooks.

Kannadasan won the Union and the State Government Best lyricist awards in the year 1970. He was also the Tamil Nadu state Poet Laureate and won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1979. He died in the United States on 17.10.1981.

Museum of possibilities to enable the Differently-Abled persons

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, on 06.06.2022, at the office of the Commissioner of Differently-Abled Persons in Chennai reviewed the functioning of the Department of Differently-Abled Persons. He also inaugurated a museum of possibilities for the Differently-Abled persons set up at a cost of Rs. 1 crore, launched distribution of the direct subsidy scheme for the differently-abled persons for purchasing their assistive gadgets and distributed welfare measures.

To protect the interests of physically-challenged persons, Dr.Kalaignar, for the first time in the country, formed a separate Department for the Welfare of Differently-Abled persons. He also introduced the term 'Persons with Differently-Abled' as they should be called with due respect. In order to improve the livelihoods of Differently-Abled persons, the Government of Tamil Nadu is paying more attention to their education, employment and welfare, so that they live with self-respect and enjoy equal rights in society.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, while speaking in the Legislative Assembly on 21.04.2022, said that he himself would go personally to the Commission for Differently-Abled and contact the officers concerned to know the problems of the disabled and the benefits available for them. This Government would also hold a meeting to discuss all these issues with the stakeholders and find a solution for the problems.

As per the assurance made in the Assembly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister personally visited the Office of the Commissioner of Differently-Abled Persons and reviewed the activities of the Differently-Abled Department and the current status of various existing and announced schemes for the Differently-Abled.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated and visited the museum of 'possibilities' for the differently-abled, which has been set up for the first time in South India, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 crore. The museum has been set up as an interactive centre to showcase the equipment and technical devices needed by the differently-abled. The exhibition is also to create awareness among the general public, from children with Differently-Abled to the elderly, to overcome the obstacles faced by all Differently-Abled persons and find solutions.

This museum has a 'model house', where Differently-Abled people can live in a barrier-free environment. Also, the museum is designed to encourage users, creators and innovators to interact with the community, conduct research, and enable Differently-Abled people to live without any hurdles.

The museum helps people with 21 types of Differently-Abled to show their abilities, live together

and get guidance with technical information and training in using assistive devices.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister launched for the first time in the country a direct subsidy scheme (Choice-based System of Providing Assistive Devices) to enable Differently-Abled persons to choose the type and model of assistive devices they want to use. In the first phase, for the benefit of 7,219 persons, the Hon'ble Chief Minister introduced 36 models of 5 types of equipment viz., Bicycle, Wheel chair, Motorized Sewing Machines, Behind-the-ear earpieces and Motorized Mobile Carts, for user choice, at a cost of Rs. 9.50 crore. As a token he handed over the assistive devices to 6 beneficiaries.

Subsequently, the newly appointed non-official members of the Tamil Nadu Differently-Abled Persons' Welfare Board met and congratulated the Hon'ble Chief Minister. They also thanked the Government of Tamil Nadu for allocating more funds for the welfare of the differently-abled, fulfilling the various demands of the board and appointing sign interpreters in the District Collector's Office. They submitted a memorandum to the Hon'ble Chief Minister containing their various demands.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said *(English Translation)*

All of you know that though I keep many Departments with me, the one which is close to my heart is your Department. I am keeping this Department which was held by Dr.Kalaignar, who had an unwavering attachment and affection for the Differently-Abled. That was the reason, he changed the name of the Department as one for the Differently-abled to create self confidence among them.

For the first time in India, Dr.Kalaignar created a separate Department for the Welfare of Differently-Abled persons. He has also launched various projects for the differently-abled persons and monitored the implementation of the schemes.

- Rehabilitation Scheme for leprosy affected people;
- Providing eyesight to the visually challenged;
- Distribution of tricycles, wheelchairs and aluminium support sticks;
- Monthly pension scheme;
- Maintenance Allowance;
- Marriage allowance;
- Free travel concession in Government Transport Corporation buses;
- Educational assistance;
- Tuition fees for college studies;
- Special fees
- And waiving of examination fee.

So many schemes for the welfare of differently-abled persons are in practice today and these schemes were all created by Dr.Kalaignar.

I assure you that the present Government will pay more attention to the welfare of the differently-abled persons.

When the present Government took charge, the State was reeling under Corona. At that time, we set up a separate unit, separate queue, and ramp facility at the vaccination for the Differently-Abled. We also conducted door-to-door vaccination for the inmates. This Government gave more importance to the safety of the Differently-Abled at the time of the Corona pandemic.

We have exempted all Differently-Abled students who have applied to write the Class XII subsidiary examinations and declared them all pass. We have given them the hope of higher education. At the time of the Corona infection, we went to the home of the Differently-Abled and provided them with all the essentials.

This Government has given the greatest confidence not only to those who are registered in the Government records but also to those un-registered.

Following this, during this one year period, we have been doing many rare tasks for the benefit of the disabled.

- I announced Rs.62.50 crore allocation to provide assistive devices to all Differently-Abled persons who are in the waiting list.
- Assistive equipment to 37,660 Differently-Abled persons at a cost of Rs. 70.76 crore.
- Retrofitted Petrol scooters have been provided to 1,228 Differently-Abled persons.
- Maintenance allowance to 2,11,505 beneficiaries costing Rs.360.21 crore.
- The Government also announced that an assistant travelling with the disabled will be able to travel free in ordinary buses of the State Transport Corporations.
- As a pioneering project not only for our country but also for the world, a new scheme by name "RIGHTS" (Urimaigal) is to be implemented at a cost of Rs. 1,709 crore for the benefit of the Differently-Abled.

- The state-level award is given to those who have rendered outstanding service to the welfare of the disabled.
- A new building at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.65 crore, is to be constructed at the Mallavadi Government Rehabilitation Home for leprosy patients.
- At the Anna Centennial Library, 31 visually impaired persons have been specially recruited for the posts of book binder and book binding assistant.
- The free marriage scheme has been announced for the disabled and implemented in all the HR and CE controlled temples and in temple-owned marriage halls.

In the past one year, we have announced various welfare schemes to bring cheer into the lives of differently- abled persons.

I and my Government are performing in the manner of Dr.Kalaignar when he was the Chief Minister, for the welfare of Differently-Abled persons.

Tamil Nadu has been adjudged as the best state in providing services to the Differently-Abled persons. The award was handed over to Tamil Nadu by the Hon'ble President on the International Day of Differently-abled persons on 03.12.2021.

Salem District has been selected as the best District in the country for providing rehabilitation to the Differently-Abled.

Six Differently-Abled persons from Tamil Nadu were selected for the all-India Award for their outstanding performance.

Tamil Nadu is the only State which received the 'three awards' from the Hon'ble President.

When the awards were shown to me by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, I was really proud and happy to receive the awards. At that time I felt that the State should get more such awards in the coming years and the Government should work for it.

I appeal to the officials of the Department that instead of saying that we gave scooters, tools and funds, you should instil confidence in the disabled. For that I appeal to all officers of the Department to work with a sense of commitment.

Only a few people are approaching the Department for assistance. If you are not able to fulfil their demands immediately, try to address them within a few weeks.

The only hope for the Differently-Abled is the Government and it should be kept in mind by the Department officials and they should perform the work with a sense of commitment.

Today I request you all that you should pay more attention to some of these fields and strive for the advancement of Differently-Abled persons. It is said that there was some delay in distributing UDID Cards. The process should be expedited. Camps should be conducted at various places so that the benefits of all the schemes go to the Differently-Abled persons without any hindrance.

The Departments of Health, Child Welfare and Education should work together in providing services to the differently-abled.

Apart from providing welfare schemes, suitable employment should be provided for the differently-abled.

Efforts should be made to get good jobs for differently-abled people in private companies along with filling up backlog vacancies in Government Departments.

Regular meetings of Welfare Board for Differently-Abled Persons and State Advisory Board for persons should be conducted to create a new chapter in the life of Differently-Abled persons which no Government had ever done before. I make this appeal as the Minister in charge of the Department. This Department should function to help Differently-Abled persons to advance in their lives.

The Dravidian model development is development of all sectors and all people, including the development and happiness of marginalized people.

All their demands should be fulfilled. My happiness and the Government's happiness, as well of those working in the Department lie in their happiness.

With this I conclude my speech.

Thiru. S.Sivarasu I.A.S.,
District Collector

Miyawaki forests come up in Tiruchi District; cool breeze glides through the greenery

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin**, after taking over as the Chief Minister of the State, took a policy decision to increase the forest cover in the State. With this view, it was decided to increase the forest cover by utilizing the Miyawaki Method during the previous year under the Mahatma Gandhi's National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Miyawaki Forestry is a technique for building dense native forests, developed by Akira Miyawaki, an expert in plant ecology. Miyawaki Forestry is one of the most effective tree planting methods for improving the forest cover quickly on degraded land. The special feature of this method is that it is possible to grow more trees in a small stretch of land with proper planting methods.

Earlier, forests were developed mainly for making wood products. Forests were considered only for revenue generating purposes. But of late people have realized that development of forests is essential for human life and for protecting the environment.

In developed Miyawaki Forests, one can undertake walking practice and avoid polluted environments, as these forests emit a lot of pure air. In the Miyawaki method, trees grow 10 times faster and get 30 times denser than normal forests. Due to this, the earth temperature is considerably reduced and birds, insects and bees substantially increase in number. Biological environment improves considerably, the ground water table increases substantially and more trees are grown at a lesser cost. The most essential feature is that after 2 years, there is no need for maintenance.

The Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Thiru. K.N. Nehru encouraged Miyawaki Forests in Tiruchi District and gave guidelines for developing the forests. In connection with the birth anniversary of the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, the Hon'ble Minister inaugurated Miyawaki Forests on 9 acres of land with 1.25 lakh tree saplings in Pallapuram Panchayat in June 2021.

Following this, in Bikshandarkoil, Thachankurichi and Pagalavadi Panchayats, 3.50 lakh tree saplings over 27.30 acres of land and in Musiri Corporation in September 2021,

one lakh saplings in over 7 acres of lands, were planted.

It was planned to develop the Miyawaki Mini forests in about 56 acres of land in Kollidam basin, with 8 lakh tree saplings and the same was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration. So far, 3 lakh saplings have been planted and the planting work of the remaining 5 lakh is going on. In the past one year, about 8.75 lakh tree saplings were planted in about 99.30 acres of land. Due to proper maintenance, the entire area looks green.

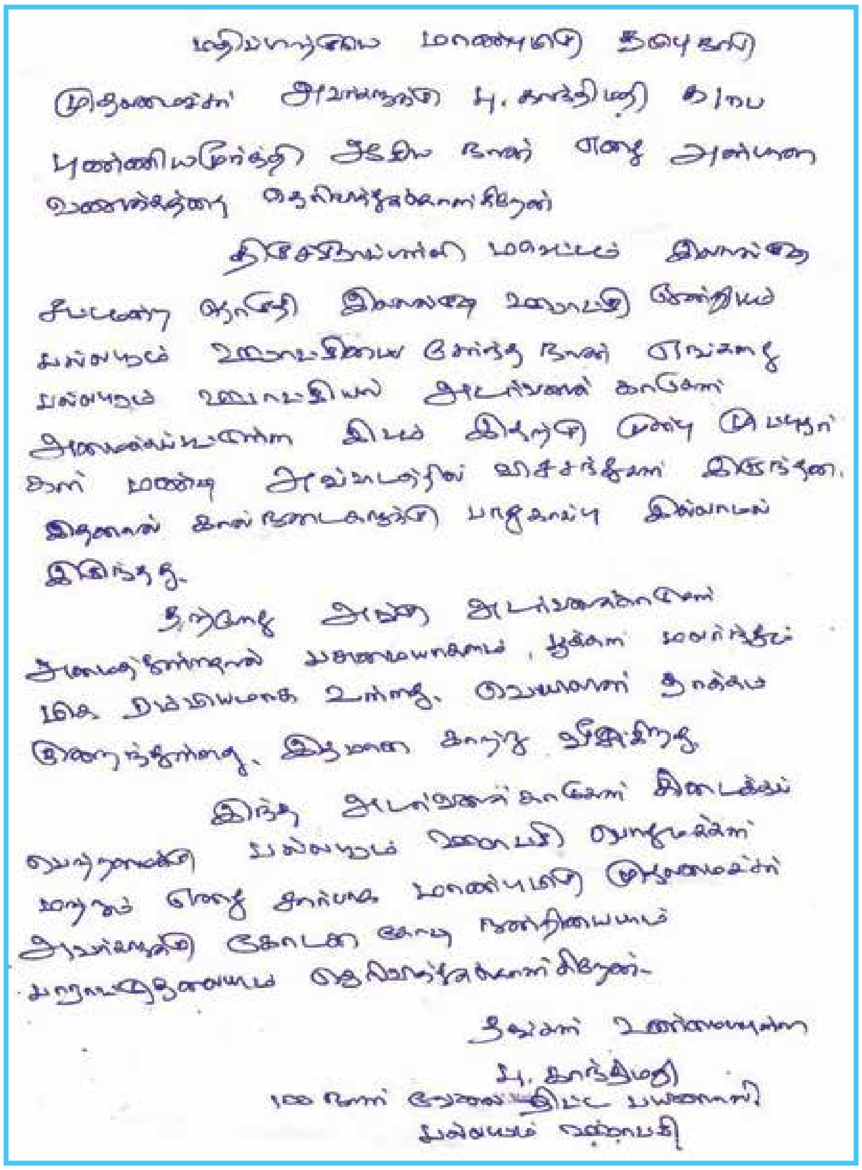
In forests developed under the Miyawaki technique, 57 varieties of trees, which produce more oxygen and shade are preferred. Mostly Neem, Tamarind, Pungan, Badam, Arasu, Poovarasu, Mahogany, Mandarai, Sarakondrai, Naaval, Vengai and Paakku saplings are preferred as they produce more oxygen.

In the Miyawaki forests, developed in Poonampalayam in Mannachanallur Union, a separate path has been developed for walking and the concept of 'Walk in the Forests' has been developed. This walking path was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration in July 2021.

To develop dense forests, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, fencing of forestry, sinking deep bore wells, developing the land, providing irrigation facilities and purchasing of saplings, with the co-ordination of industrial houses, was undertaken at a cost of Rs. 3 crore.

One of the beneficiaries, Tmt.Kanthimathi, in a letter to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, explained how she was benefited by the forestry scheme.

Tmt.Kanthimathi
Tiruchirappalli District



Dr. M. Aarthi I.A.S.
District Collector

Chief Minister's Nutritive Vegetable Garden Scheme

To give more importance to agriculture, the Government of Tamil Nadu, for the first time in the history of the State, presented a separate budget for agriculture on 14.08.2021 after hearing the views and suggestions of various farmers associations. In the budget speech, under the Chief Minister's Nutritive Vegetable Garden Scheme, it was announced that to produce pesticide free vegetables and to make children aware of various plants, 2 lakh kits, containing 12 types of vegetable seeds, will be distributed in the rural areas at a subsidized price. Similarly in urban areas, one lakh kits, containing terrace garden saplings kits, containing 6 types of vegetable seeds, would be distributed. Under the distribution of immunity building nutritious saplings schemes, 2 lakh nutritious saplings kits, each containing 8 varieties of plants will be given with subsidy. For vegetable growing farmers, an input incentive of Rs.15,000 will be given and for 2,000 villages, where the fertility of soil is low, 1,250 hectares will be selected for improving growing greens.

Under the Chief Minister's Nutritive Vegetable Garden Scheme, at a cost of Rs.6.75 crore, kits containing 6 varieties of vegetable seeds, costing Rs. 900 each will be distributed in urban areas along with 6 polythene grow bags, six coco pith blocks each weighing 2 kg, 400 grams high-

quality fertilizers, 200 grams of chemical fertilizers, and 100 ml of organic fertilizers, and a booklet containing methods of cultivation, all worth Rs. 900 were distributed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at a subsidized rate of Rs. 225 for people in urban areas to set up a terrace garden. Under the scheme a maximum of 2 kits will be distributed to a person.

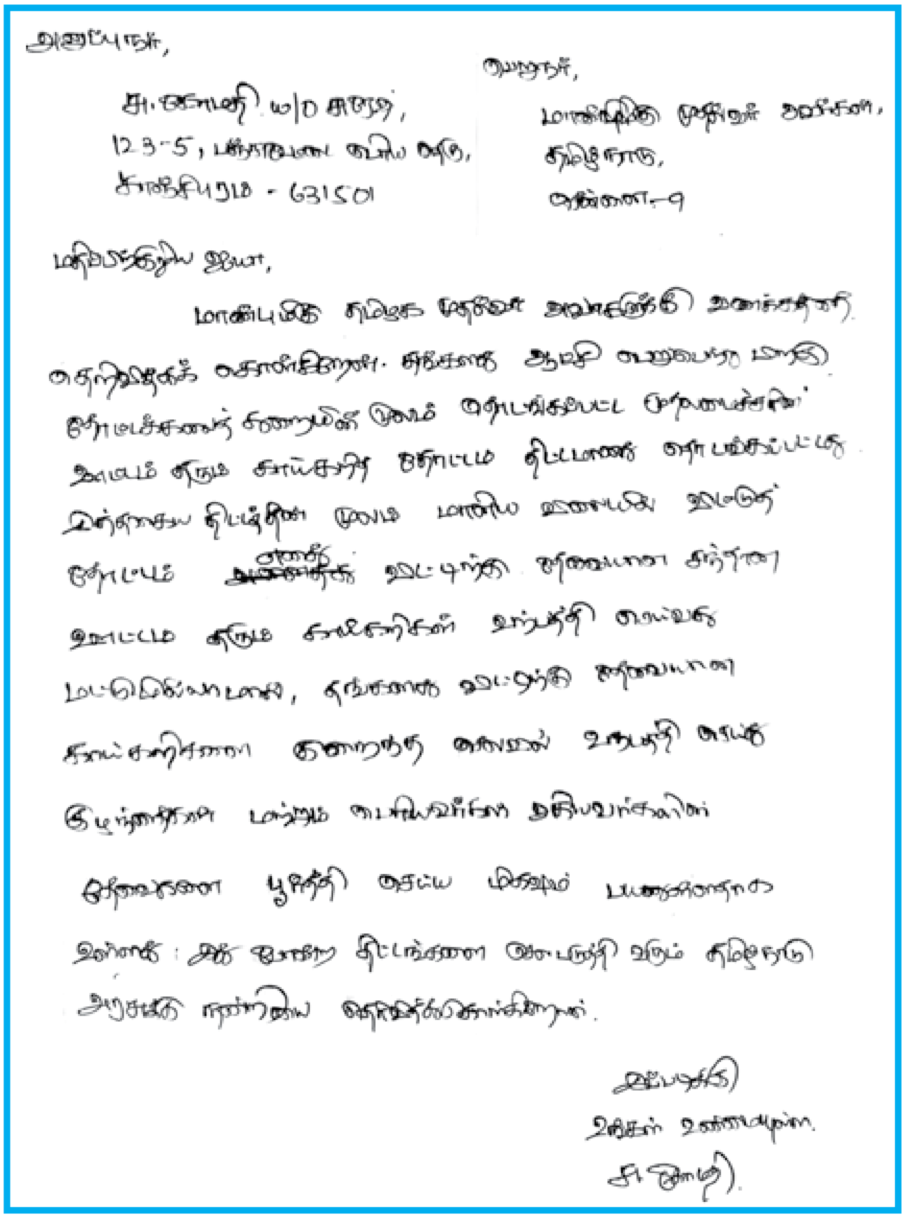
Similarly, to encourage vegetable gardens in rural areas, at a cost of Rs.90 lakh, 12 vegetable seedlings such as brinjal, chilli, ladies finger, tomato, field beans, round gourd, snake gourd, bitter gourd, bottle gourd, country beans, ash gourd and greens, all costing Rs. 15 were distributed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. At the maximum, 2 vegetable seedling kits are distributed to a beneficiary.

Under the scheme for distribution of saplings to increase the immunity against diseases, for growing herbal plants and immunity building fruits and vegetables, at a cost of Rs. 1.50 crore, 8 plants such as papaya, lemon, drum stick, curry leaves, thippili, puthina and Indian Aloe (Sotru katrazhai), all costing Rs. 25 were distributed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. At the maximum, one set are distributed to a beneficiary.

Under the above schemes, in Kancheepuram District, 4,000 terrace garden saplings, costing Rs. 27 lakh, 6,200 vegetable saplings, costing Rs. 2.79 lakh, 6,200 nutritious vegetable saplings, costing Rs. 4.65 lakh, totally costing Rs. 34.44 lakh were distributed.

One of the beneficiaries of the scheme, S.Gomathi of Kancheepuram District, in her letter to Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked him for the introduction of the nutritive vegetable garden scheme.

S.Gomathi
Kancheepuram District



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இப்படிக்கு
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சு. கோமதி.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** released water from the Mettur Dam for Kuruvai Cultivation by the farmers in the Delta region and sprinkled flowers on the water on 24.05.2022.

Tamilarasu

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Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** offered a floral wreath and sprinkled flower petals at the resting place of Kanniya Thendral Quaid-e-Millath on the 127th birth anniversary of the leader, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu at the Wallajah Big Mosque campus at Tiruvallikeni, Chennai on 05.06.2022.

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